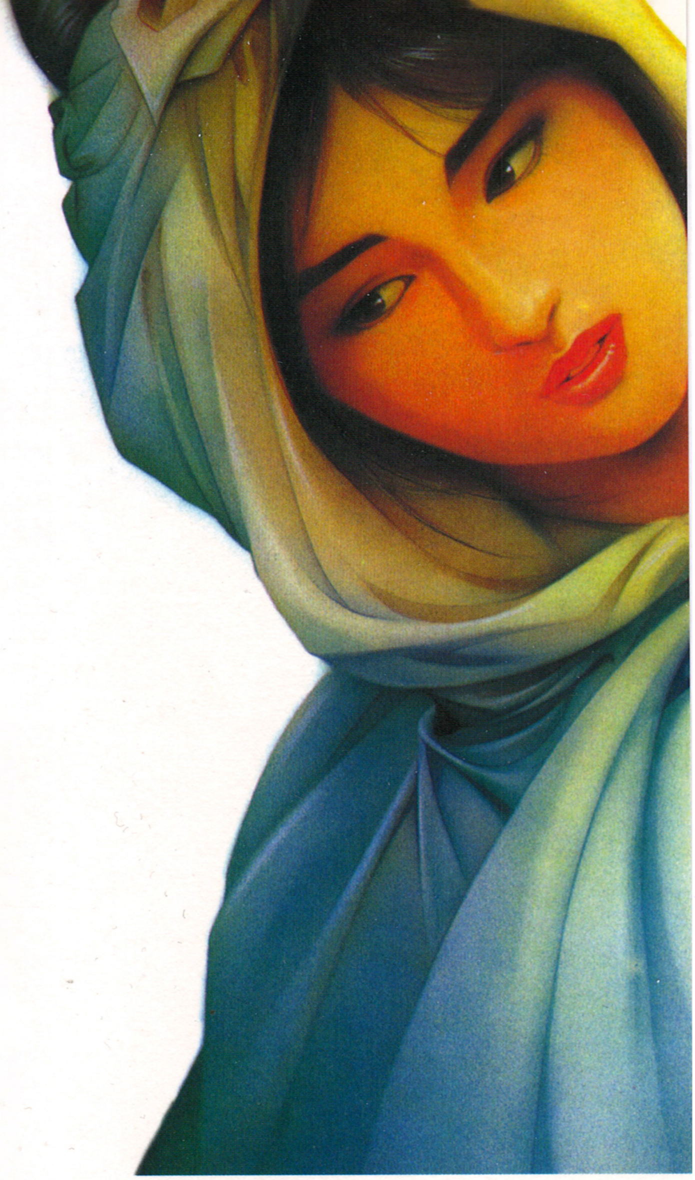
# STORM RIDERS 風雲

by Wing Shing Ma

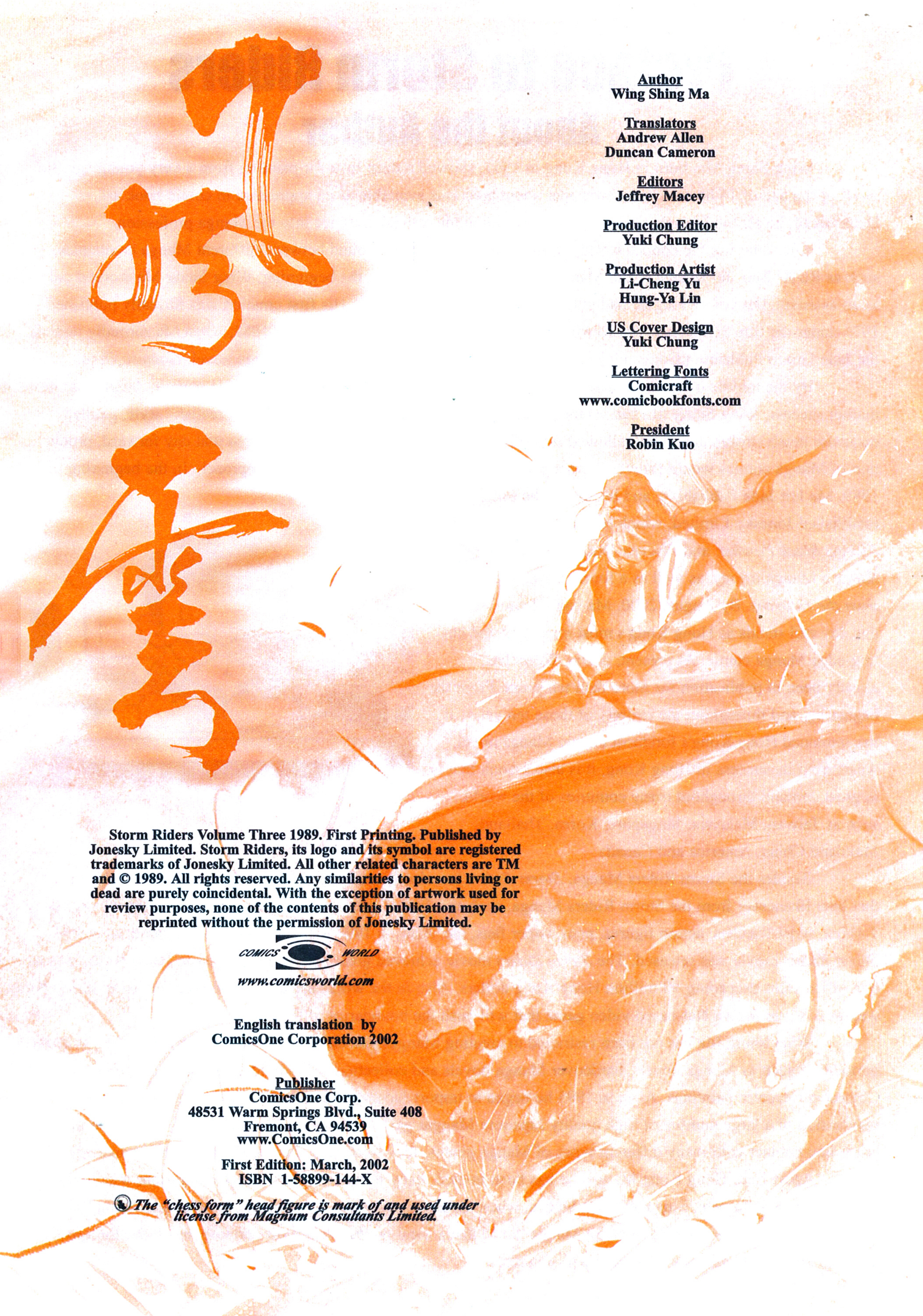
03

SUGGESTED
13UP



## About the Author

Jonesky Limited was established in 1989. On July 1st of that same year Jonesky Limited founder Mr. Wing Shing Ma, started to publish his popular work “Storm Riders”. “Storm Riders” is the first Hong Kong Comic to use Kung Fu and movie techniques in a comic production. “Storm Riders” strikes a root in the hearts of its readers. Mr. Ma’s style is loved and respected in Asia.



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# Preface to Storm Riders

## About the Author

Wing Shing Ma, born in Hong Kong in 1961, showed a deep love for painting from a very young age. In 1976, at the age of 14 he read in a newspaper about positions available as an apprentice in comic book art. Determined, he sent in his submission. This step marked his official entrance into the Manga profession.

After entering the comics world, he spent his time moving around between different Manga companies, such as Ru Xi Bao, Jin Manga (Gold Manga) and Xin Lang Chao. In the beginning, Wing Shing Ma worked only as an assistant, but before long he had published some of his own work. His first creation was formally published in 1976 under the title *Daydream* (Bai Ri Meng). However, it wasn't until the year of 1982, when Ma formally joined the Jade Group Publishing Company Ltd., that he began working on the famous Manga novel, *Chinese Hero.*

By the middle of 1983, he had already leaped into the highest levels of the Manga market. Apart from his market success, Wing Shing Ma had established a new and distinctive Manga style. This realistic style, painted with exquisite brush strokes and detail, allowed for a deeply expressive form of Manga. From that day forward, production of Manga comics would forever be changed due to the impact of Ma's original approach. In the beginning of 1989, Ma left Jade Publishing, and in July of the same year established Jonesky Limited, which began publishing *Storm Riders, Black Panther,* and *Heaven Sword and the Dragon Saber,* a Manga trilogy, as well as a fourth book, *Punishment from the Heavens.* By August 2000, Ma had released what to this day still stands as Hong Kong's most important and cutting-edge Manga comic. At present, *Storm Riders* has already been in publication for more than ten years. From the beginning, and throughout the entirety of those ten years, it has remained Hong Kong's foremost classic Manga novel. Apart from its success in Hong Kong, it is also a book that is in great demand throughout many countries of the world, such as Taiwan, Malaysia, Singapore, Korea, Thailand, Mainland China, America and Canada.

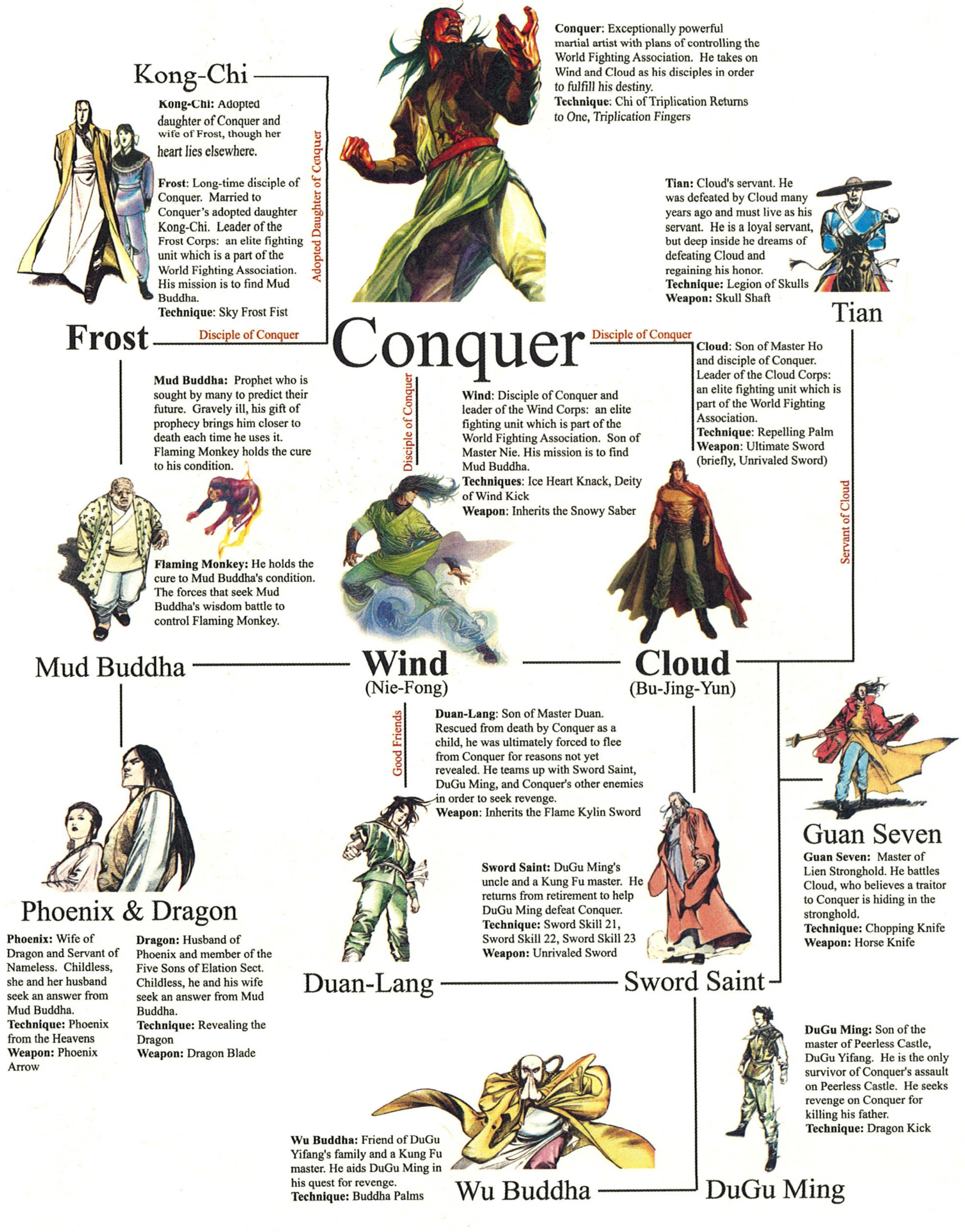
Besides the Storm Riders Manga, *Storm Riders* has also given birth to a wide array of peripheral products that bear likenesses from the Storm Riders Manga, such as a line of letter openers based on Storm Riders' weapons, T-shirts, wrist watches, action figures, pens, paper fans, etc. Also, in 1998 a *Storm Riders* video game, as well as the *Storm Riders* movie was released. The *Storm Riders* movie achieved great box office success in Hong Kong, with box office sales exceeding 40 million Hong Kong dollars. Also in the works are a *Storm Riders* television series as well as a *Storm Riders* Net-based video game that will push the boundaries of the genre.

Wing Shing Ma has not been restricted to creating Mangas. He has also published many other books and periodicals such as Manga novels, hardcover Manga novels and collections of individual artwork, as well as Chinese watercolor paintings. Also, in 1993 he began to import Japanese Mangas for translation into Chinese. His publication of a large number of high quality Japanese Mangas gave Hong Kong Manga readers the opportunity to come into contact with many different types of Manga genres, thus furthering diversification in the Manga market.

Apart from Hong Kong Manga, he has been invited many times to attend Manga exhibitions and conferences in Canada, Taiwan, Singapore and Macau, where he always receives an enthusiastic reception. Wing Shing Ma's success has shown the Hong Kong Manga world that a local product can most certainly reach the foreign marketplace and indeed achieve unprecedented success.

# STORM RIDERS 風雲

## Relationship Chart



**Conquer**: Exceptionally powerful martial artist with plans of controlling the World Fighting Association. He takes on Wind and Cloud as his disciples in order to fulfill his destiny.
**Technique**: Chi of Triplication Returns to One, Triplication Fingers

**Kong-Chi:** Adopted daughter of Conquer and wife of Frost, though her heart lies elsewhere.

**Frost**: Long-time disciple of Conquer. Married to Conquer's adopted daughter Kong-Chi. Leader of the Frost Corps: an elite fighting unit which is a part of the World Fighting Association. His mission is to find Mud Buddha.
**Technique**: Sky Frost Fist

**Tian:** Cloud's servant. He was defeated by Cloud many years ago and must live as his servant. He is a loyal servant, but deep inside he dreams of defeating Cloud and regaining his honor.
**Technique:** Legion of Skulls
**Weapon:** Skull Shaft

**Cloud**: Son of Master Ho and disciple of Conquer. Leader of the Cloud Corps: an elite fighting unit which is part of the World Fighting Association.
**Technique**: Repelling Palm
**Weapon**: Ultimate Sword (briefly, Unrivaled Sword)

**Mud Buddha:** Prophet who is sought by many to predict their future. Gravely ill, his gift of prophecy brings him closer to death each time he uses it. Flaming Monkey holds the cure to his condition.

**Flaming Monkey:** He holds the cure to Mud Buddha's condition. The forces that seek Mud Buddha's wisdom battle to control Flaming Monkey.

**Wind**: Disciple of Conquer and leader of the Wind Corps: an elite fighting unit which is part of the World Fighting Association. Son of Master Nie. His mission is to find Mud Buddha.
**Techniques**: Ice Heart Knack, Deity of Wind Kick
**Weapon**: Inherits the Snowy Saber

**Duan-Lang**: Son of Master Duan. Rescued from death by Conquer as a child, he was ultimately forced to flee from Conquer for reasons not yet revealed. He teams up with Sword Saint, DuGu Ming, and Conquer's other enemies in order to seek revenge.
**Weapon**: Inherits the Flame Kylin Sword

**Guan Seven:** Master of Lien Stronghold. He battles Cloud, who believes a traitor to Conquer is hiding in the stronghold.
**Technique:** Chopping Knife
**Weapon:** Horse Knife

**Sword Saint:** DuGu Ming's uncle and a Kung Fu master. He returns from retirement to help DuGu Ming defeat Conquer.
**Technique:** Sword Skill 21, Sword Skill 22, Sword Skill 23
**Weapon:** Unrivaled Sword

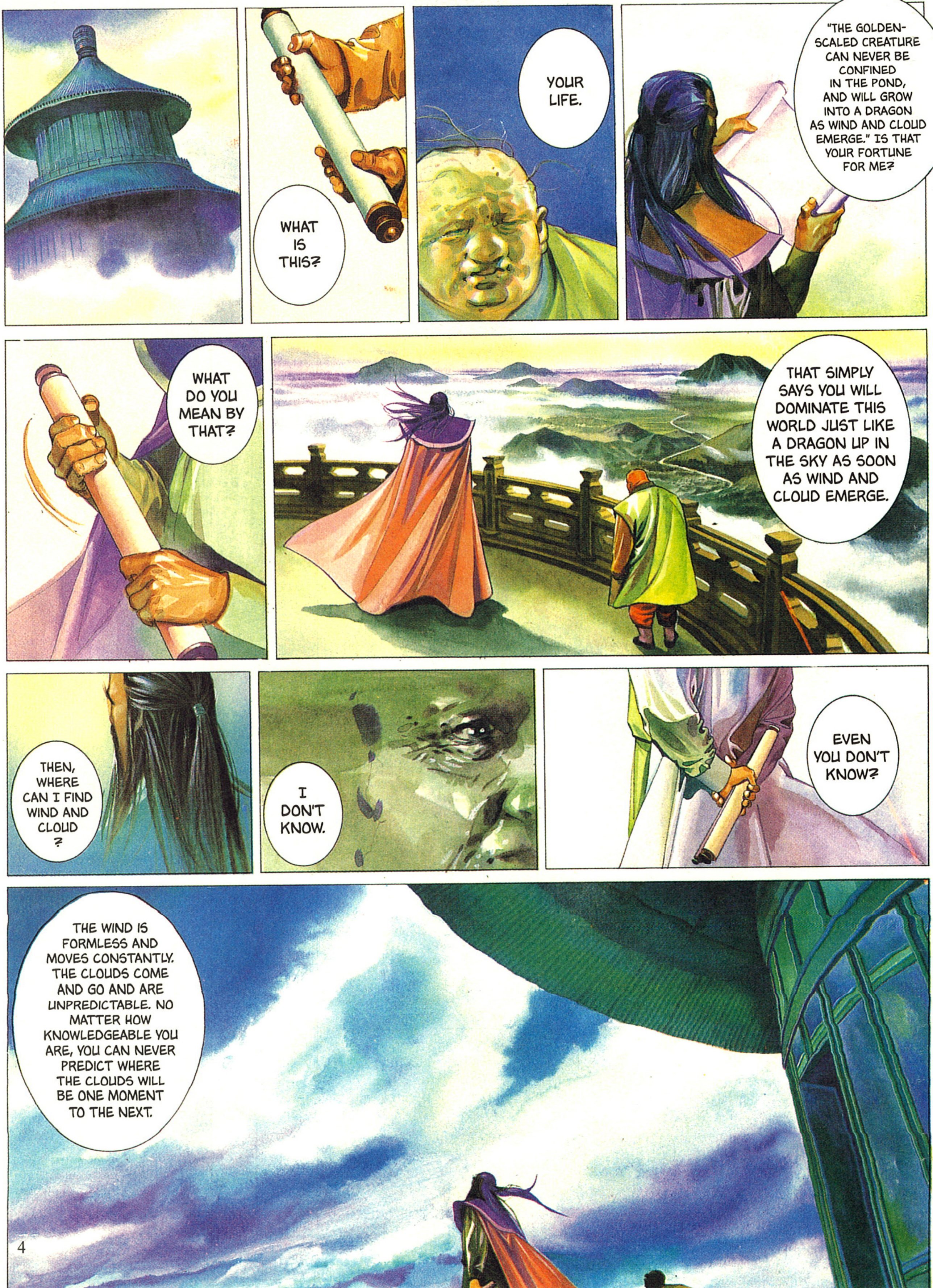
**Phoenix:** Wife of Dragon and Servant of Nameless. Childless, she and her husband seek an answer from Mud Buddha.
**Technique:** Phoenix from the Heavens
**Weapon:** Phoenix Arrow

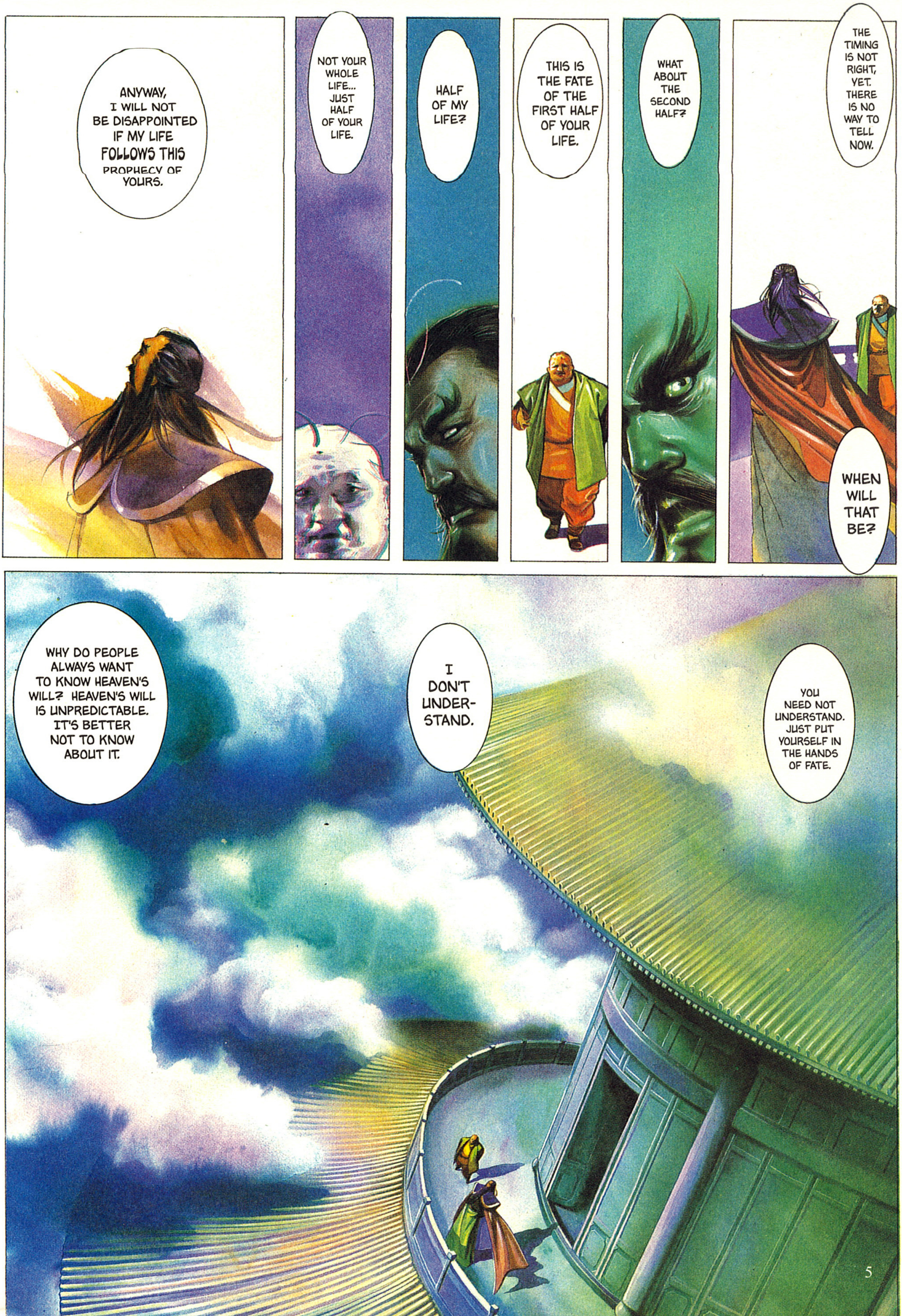
**Dragon:** Husband of Phoenix and member of the Five Sons of Elation Sect. Childless, he and his wife seek an answer from Mud Buddha.
**Technique:** Revealing the Dragon
**Weapon:** Dragon Blade

**DuGu Ming:** Son of the master of Peerless Castle, DuGu Yifang. He is the only survivor of Conquer's assault on Peerless Castle. He seeks revenge on Conquer for killing his father.
**Technique:** Dragon Kick

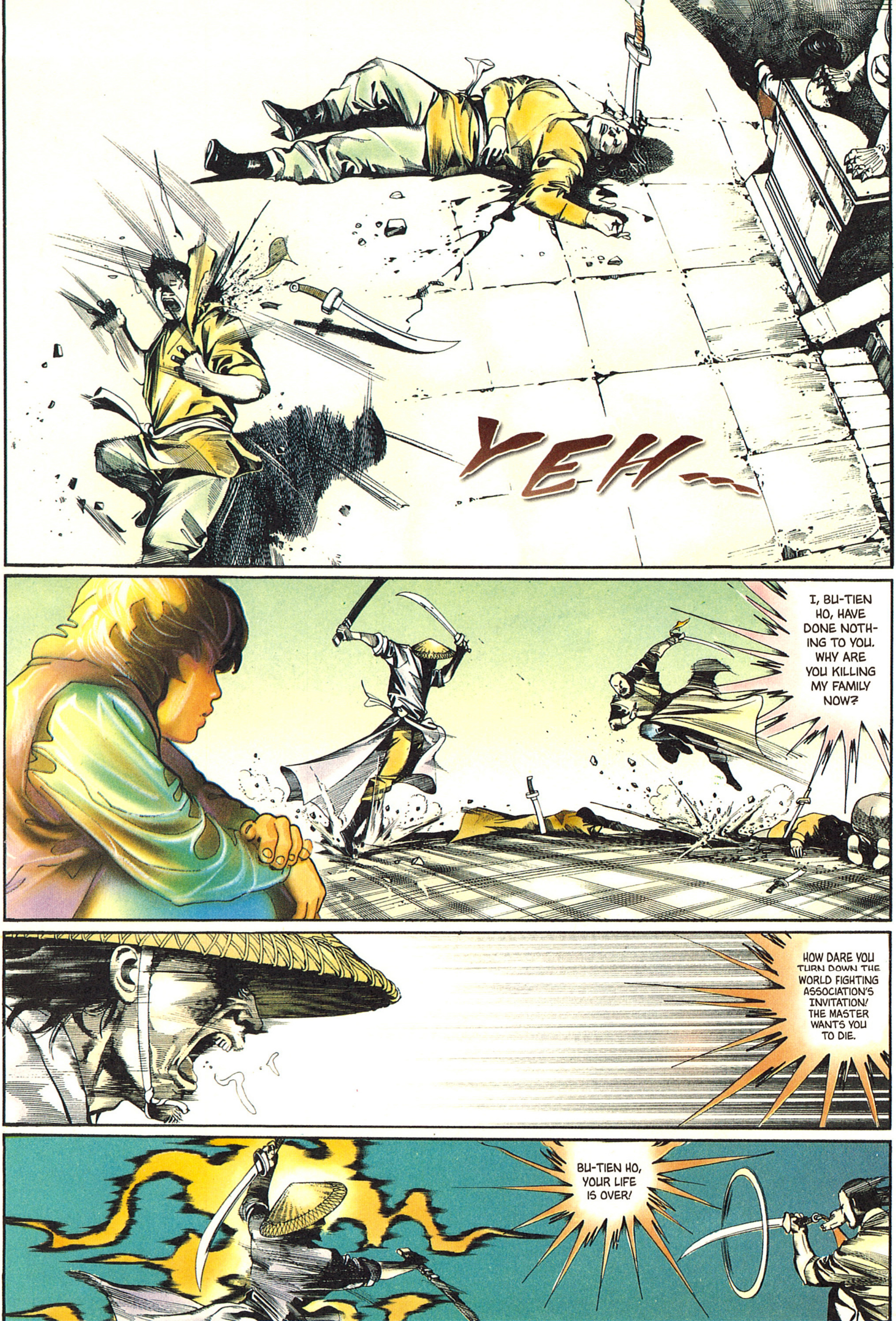
**Wu Buddha:** Friend of DuGu Yifang's family and a Kung Fu master. He aids DuGu Ming in his quest for revenge.
**Technique:** Buddha Palms

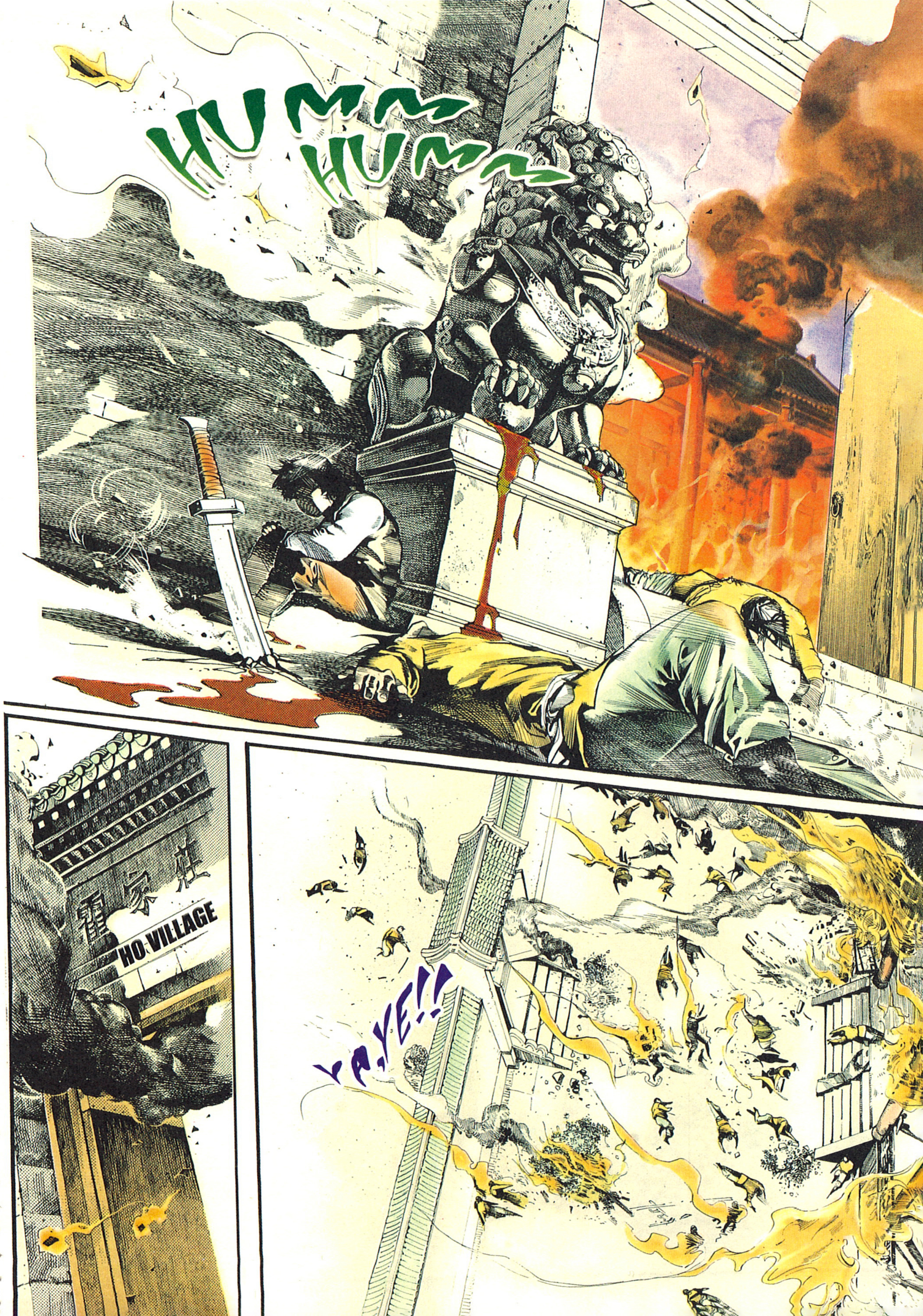
# FOREWORD

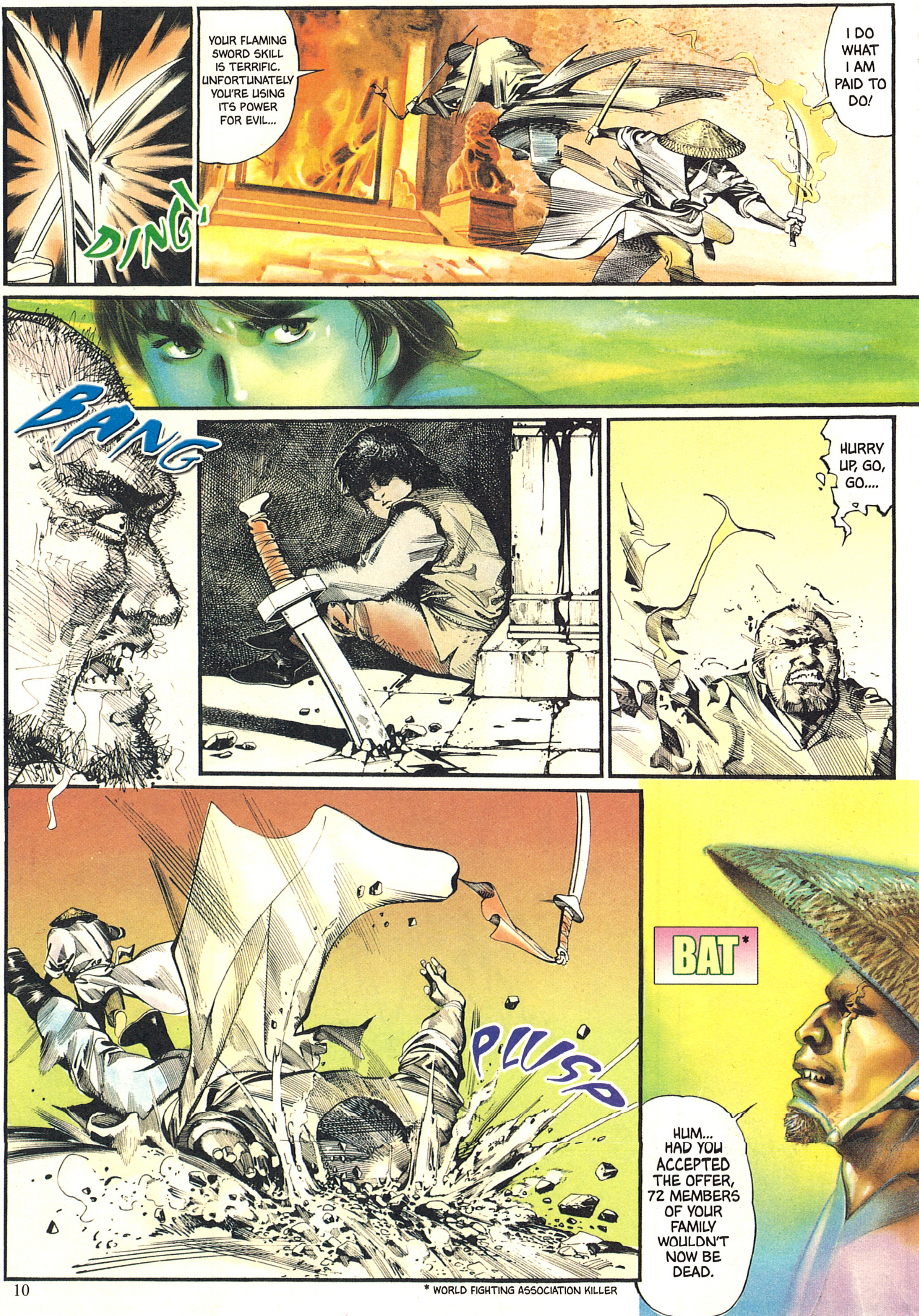

WHAT IS THIS?
YOUR LIFE.
"THE GOLDEN-SCALED CREATURE CAN NEVER BE CONFINED IN THE POND, AND WILL GROW INTO A DRAGON AS WIND AND CLOUD EMERGE." IS THAT YOUR FORTUNE FOR ME?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?
THAT SIMPLY SAYS YOU WILL DOMINATE THIS WORLD JUST LIKE A DRAGON UP IN THE SKY AS SOON AS WIND AND CLOUD EMERGE.
THEN, WHERE CAN I FIND WIND AND CLOUD?
I DON'T KNOW.
EVEN YOU DON'T KNOW?
THE WIND IS FORMLESS AND MOVES CONSTANTLY. THE CLOUDS COME AND GO AND ARE UNPREDICTABLE. NO MATTER HOW KNOWLEDGEABLE YOU ARE, YOU CAN NEVER PREDICT WHERE THE CLOUDS WILL BE ONE MOMENT TO THE NEXT.


ANYWAY, I WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED IF MY LIFE FOLLOWS THIS PROPHECY OF YOURS.
NOT YOUR WHOLE LIFE... JUST HALF OF YOUR LIFE.
HALF OF MY LIFE?
THIS IS THE FATE OF THE FIRST HALF OF YOUR LIFE.
WHAT ABOUT THE SECOND HALF?
THE TIMING IS NOT RIGHT, YET. THERE IS NO WAY TO TELL NOW.
WHEN WILL THAT BE?
WHY DO PEOPLE ALWAYS WANT TO KNOW HEAVEN'S WILL? HEAVEN'S WILL IS UNPREDICTABLE. IT'S BETTER NOT TO KNOW ABOUT IT.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
YOU NEED NOT UNDERSTAND. JUST PUT YOURSELF IN THE HANDS OF FATE.

The Legend Of Cloud

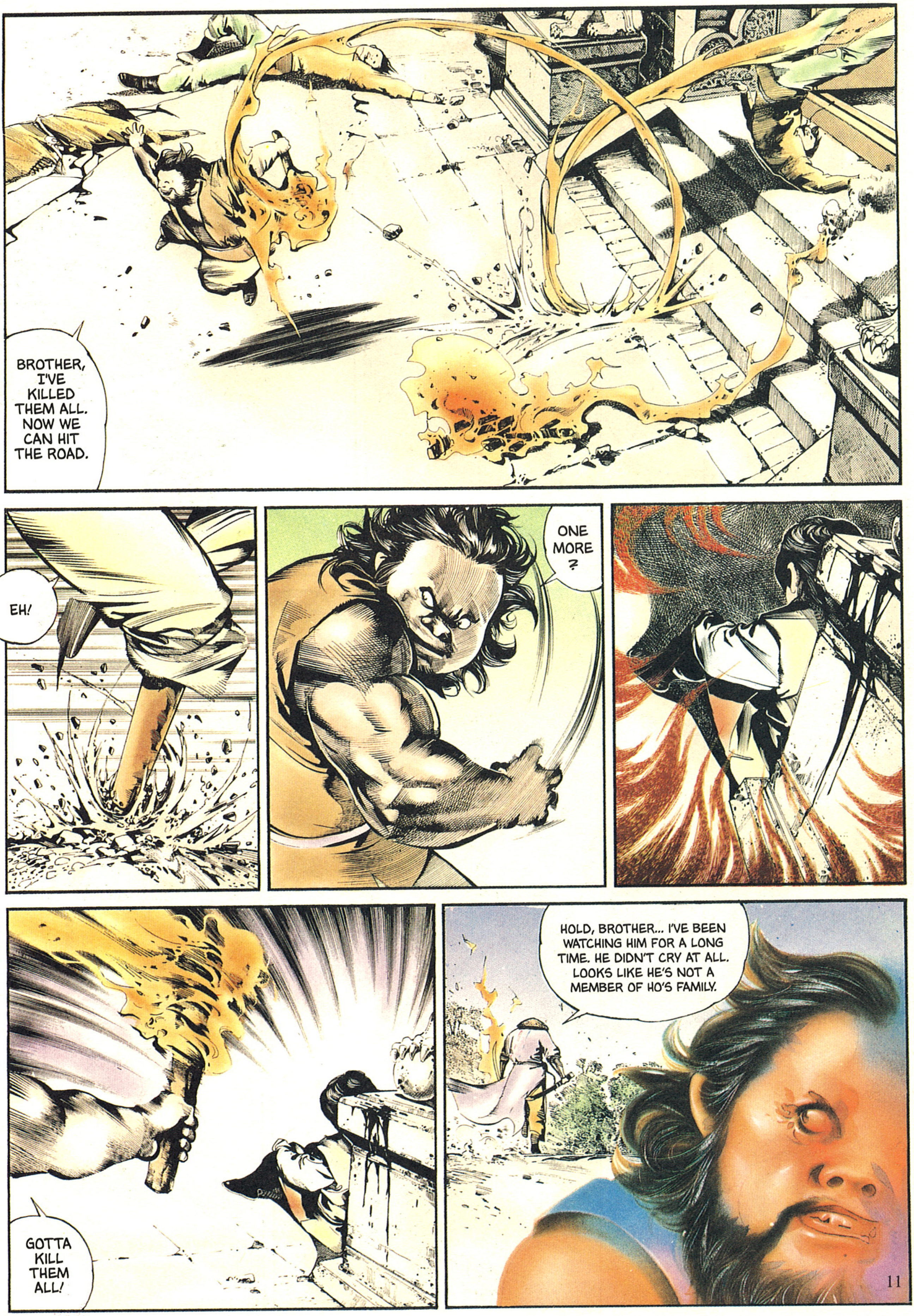

YEH--
I, BU-TIEN HO, HAVE DONE NOTHING TO YOU. WHY ARE YOU KILLING MY FAMILY NOW?
HOW DARE YOU TURN DOWN THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION'S INVITATION! THE MASTER WANTS YOU TO DIE.
BU-TIEN HO, YOUR LIFE IS OVER!

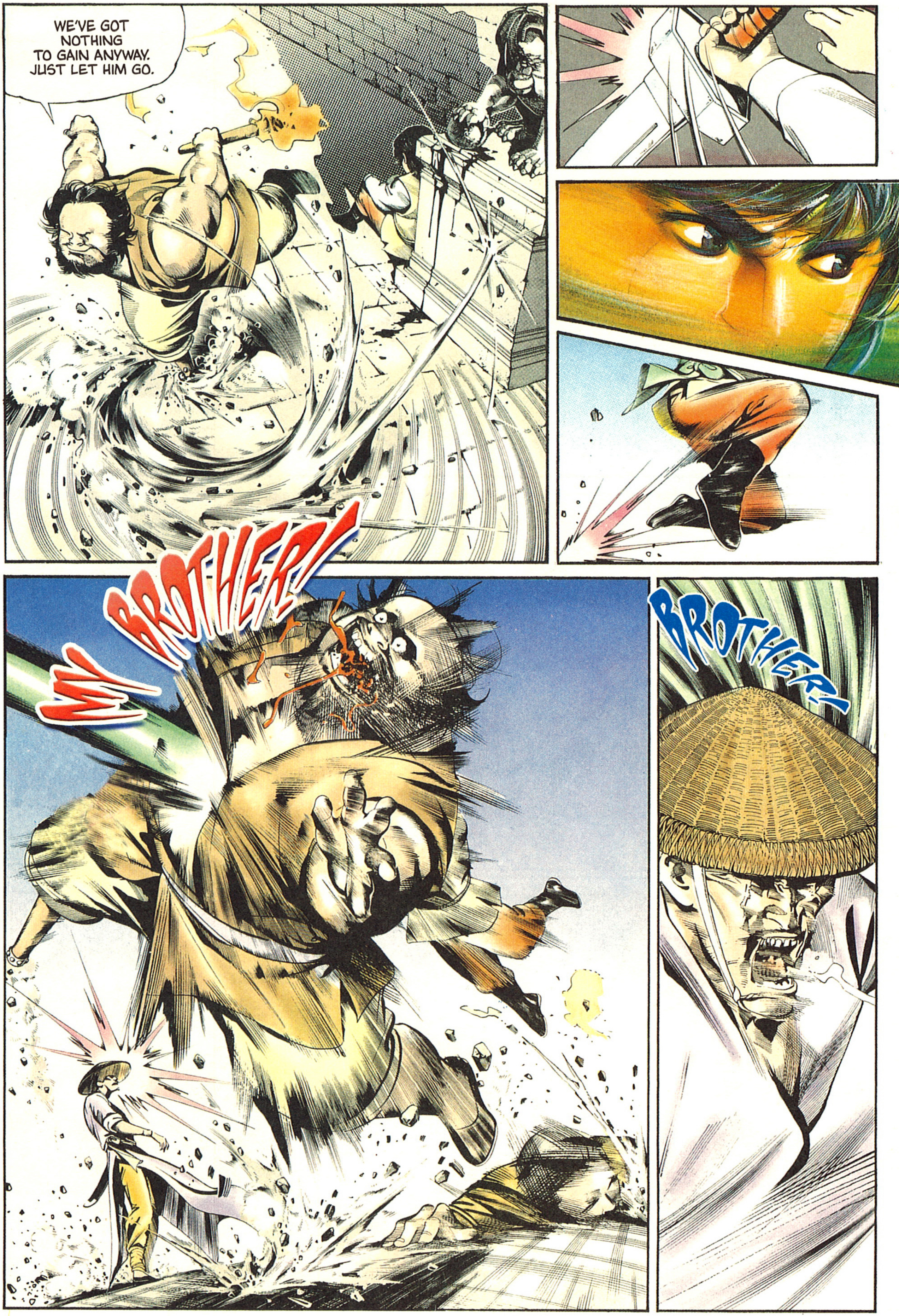

HUMM
HUMM
霍家莊
HO VILLAGE
YA,YE!!

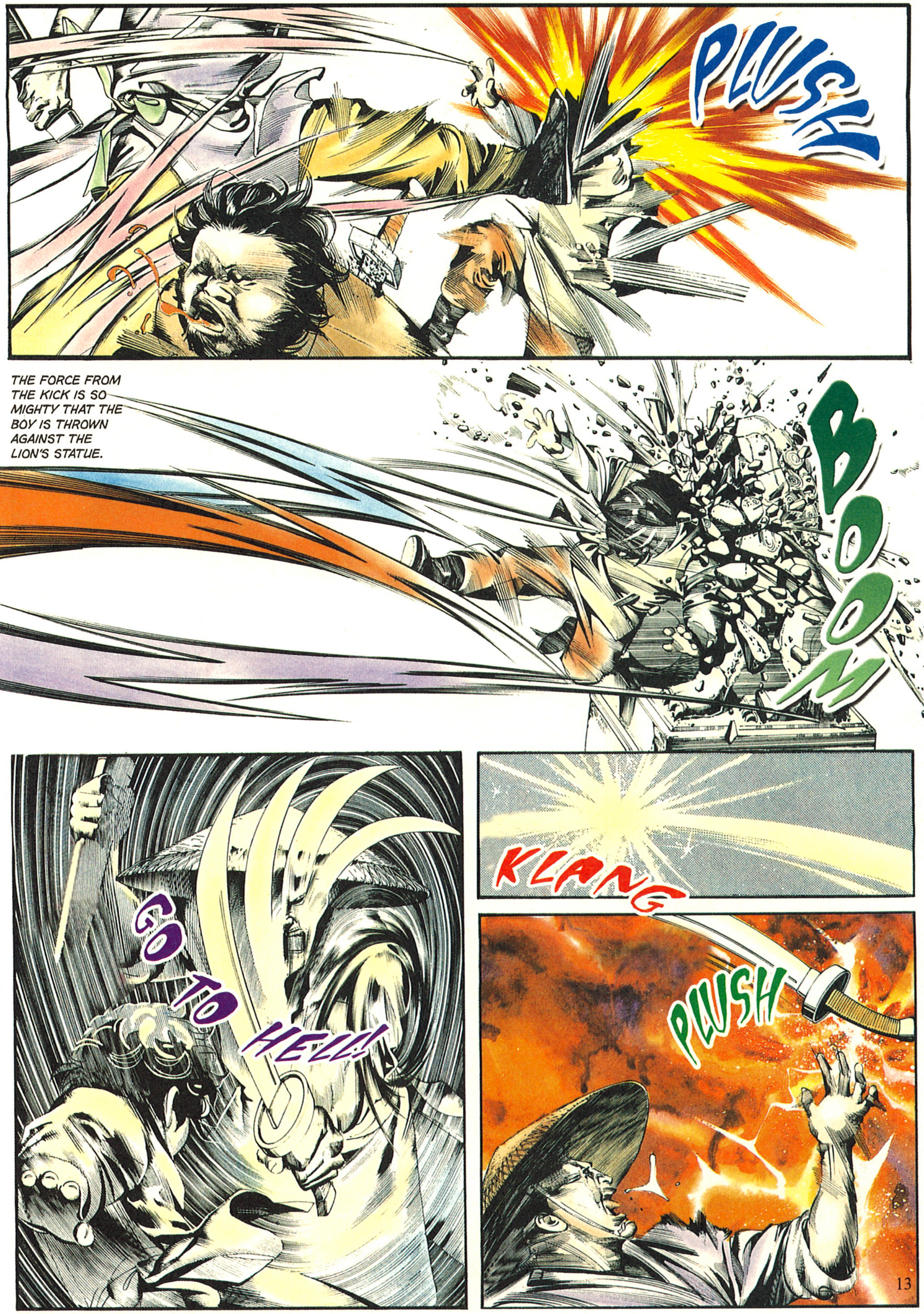

DING!
YOUR FLAMING SWORD SKILL IS TERRIFIC. UNFORTUNATELY YOU'RE USING ITS POWER FOR EVIL...
I DO WHAT I AM PAID TO DO!
BANG
HURRY UP, GO, GO....
BAT*
PLUSP
HUM... HAD YOU ACCEPTED THE OFFER, 72 MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY WOULDN'T NOW BE DEAD.

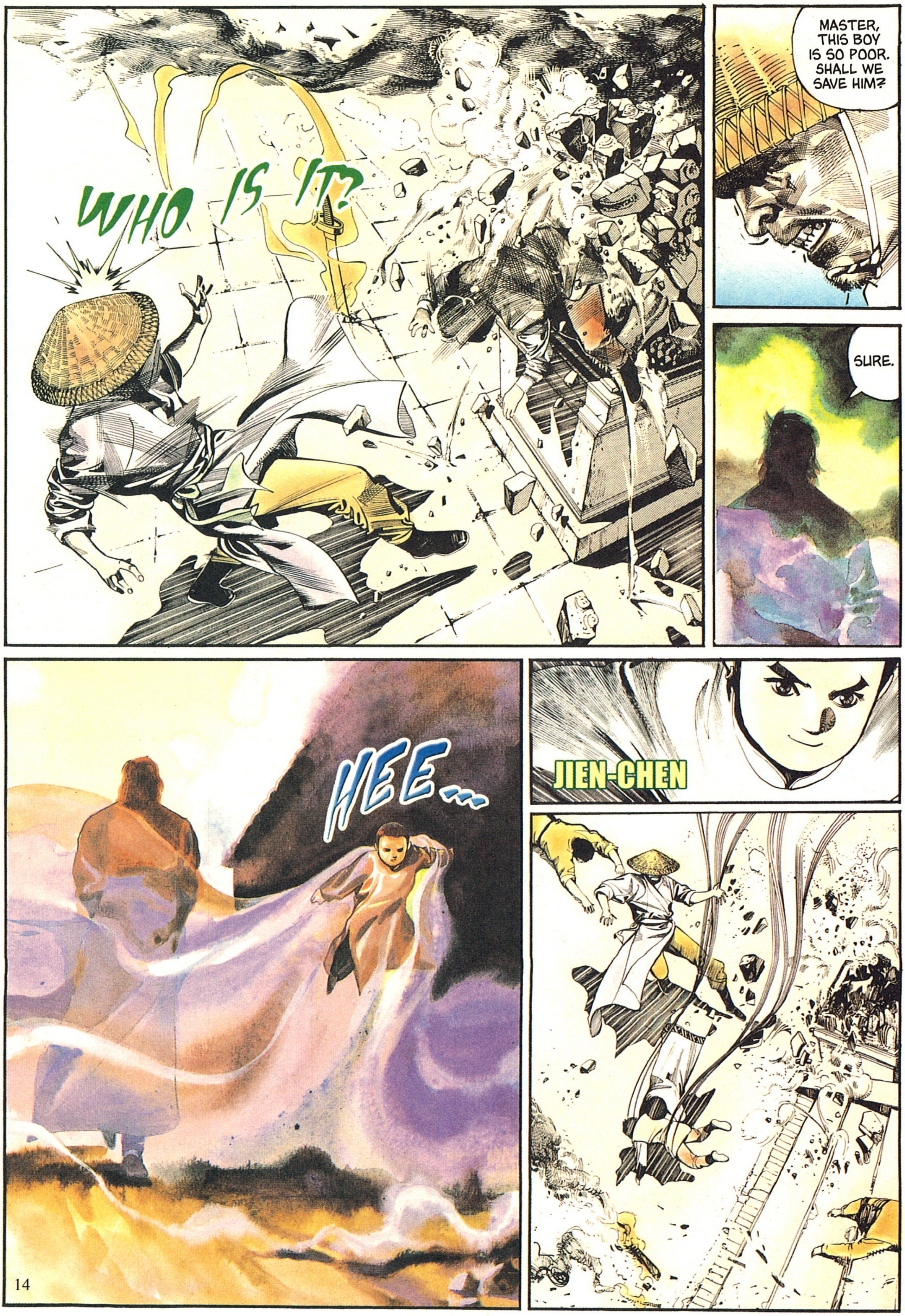
---

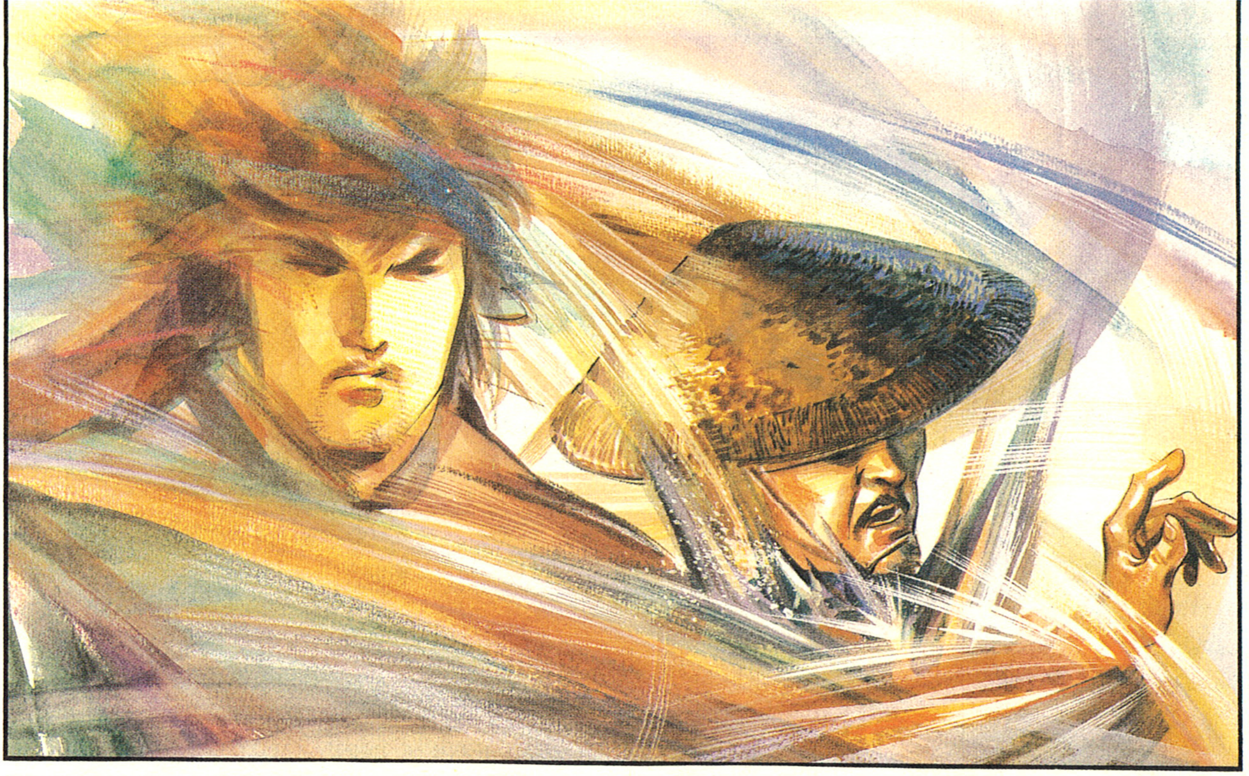
* WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION KILLER

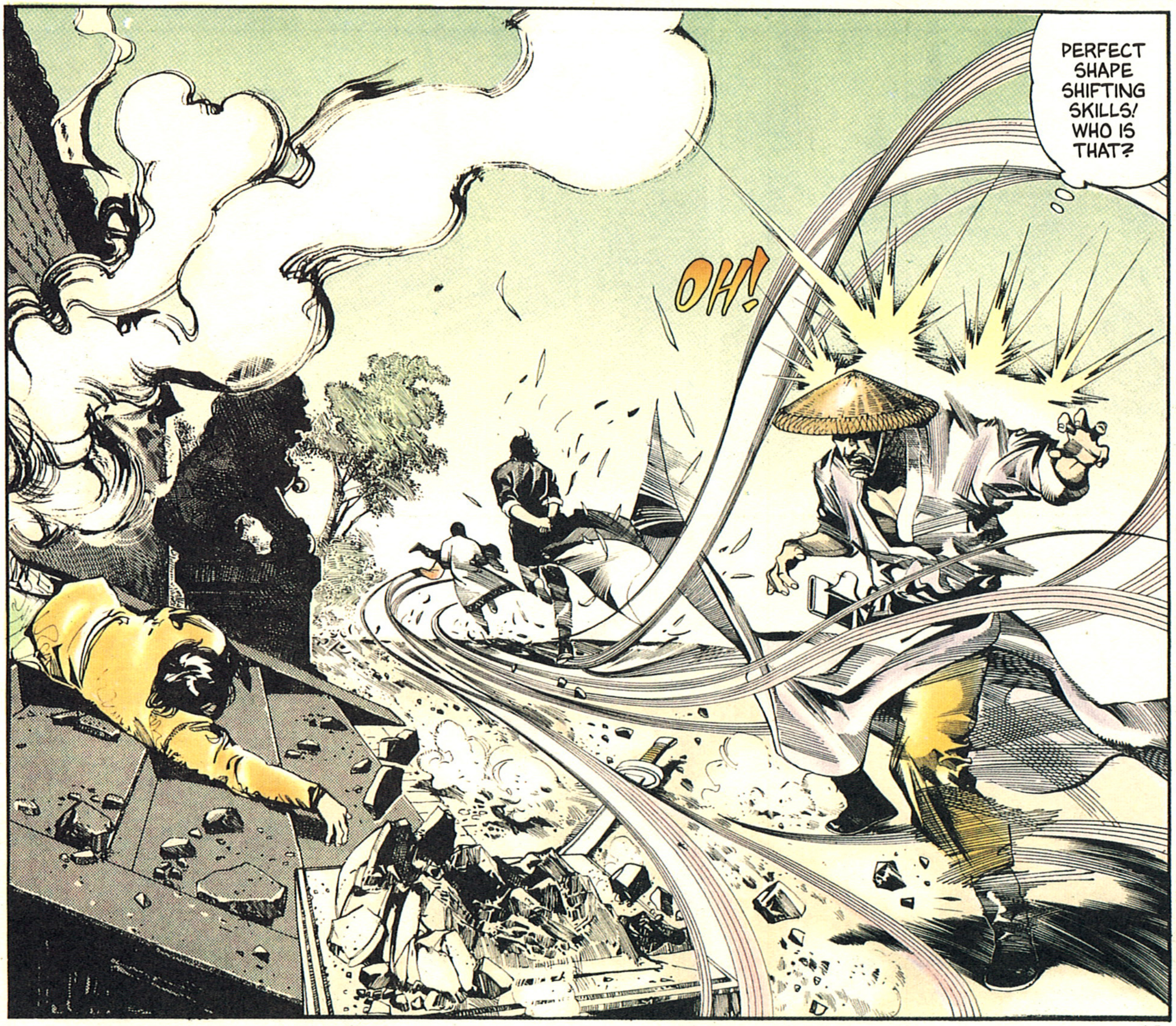

BROTHER, I'VE KILLED THEM ALL. NOW WE CAN HIT THE ROAD.
EH!
ONE MORE ?
GOTTA KILL THEM ALL!
HOLD, BROTHER... I'VE BEEN WATCHING HIM FOR A LONG TIME. HE DIDN'T CRY AT ALL. LOOKS LIKE HE'S NOT A MEMBER OF HO'S FAMILY.

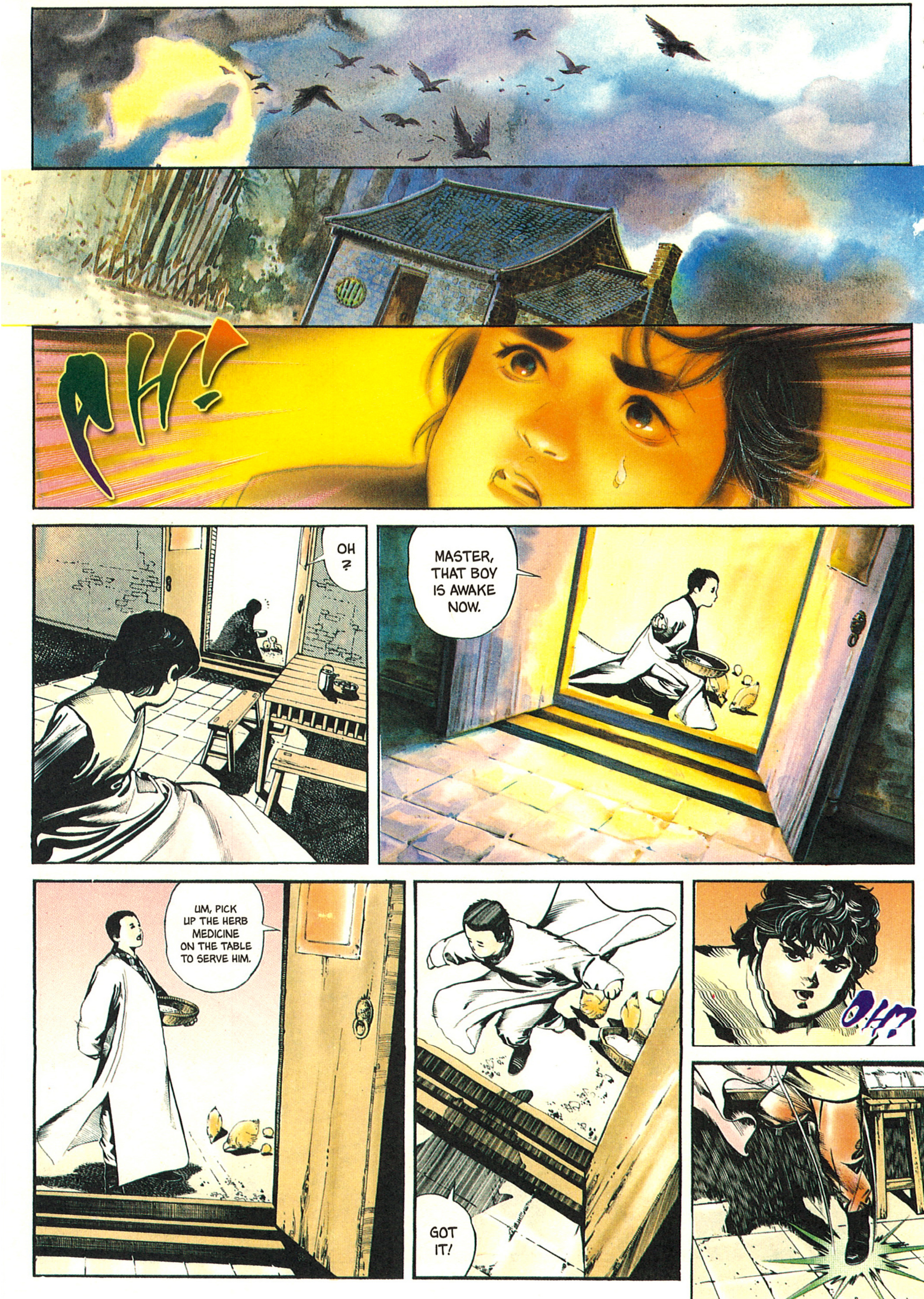

WE'VE GOT NOTHING TO GAIN ANYWAY. JUST LET HIM GO.
MY BROTHER!
BROTHER!

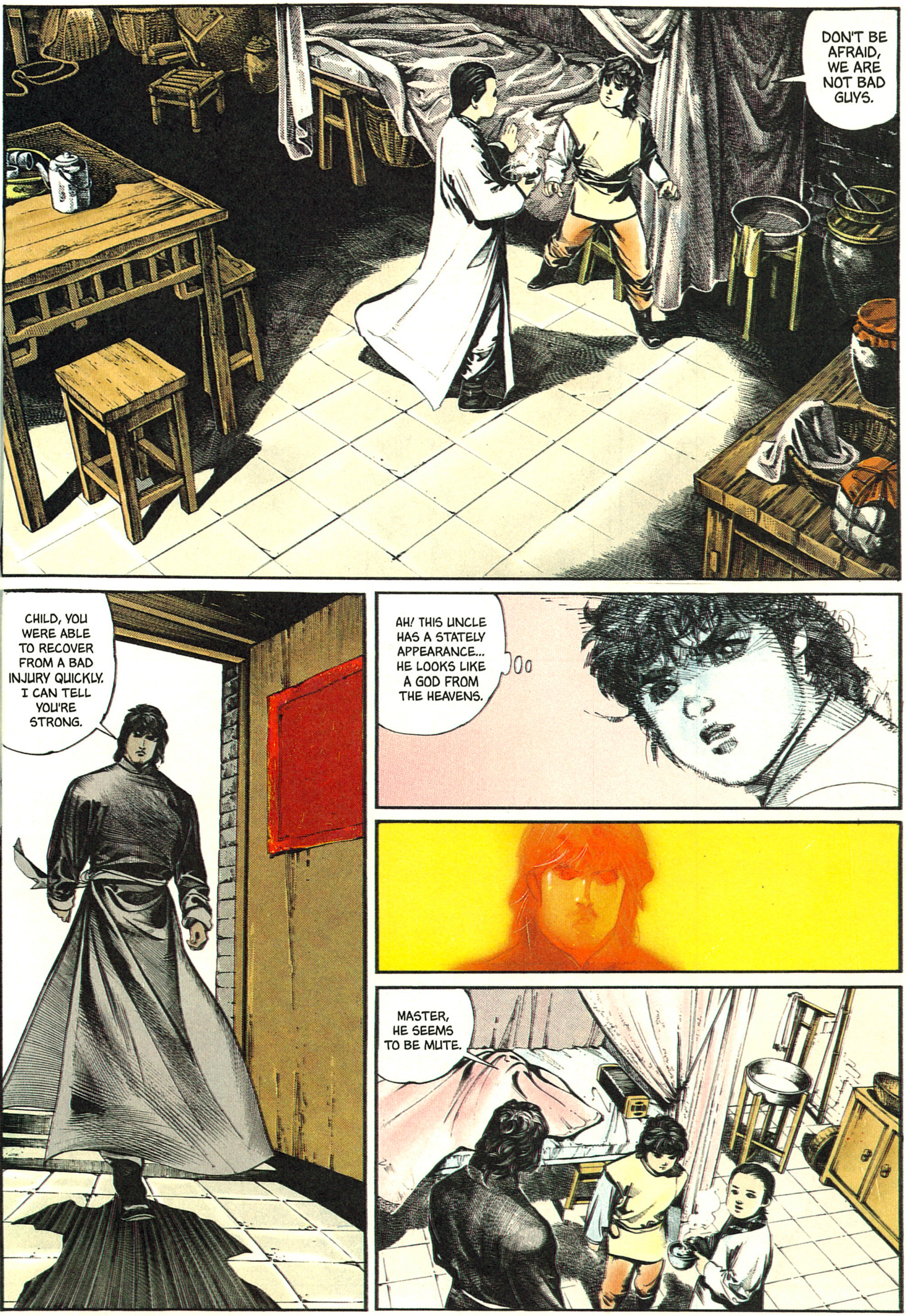

PLUSH
THE FORCE FROM THE KICK IS SO MIGHTY THAT THE BOY IS THROWN AGAINST THE LION'S STATUE.
BOOM
GO TO HELL!
KLANG
PLUSH

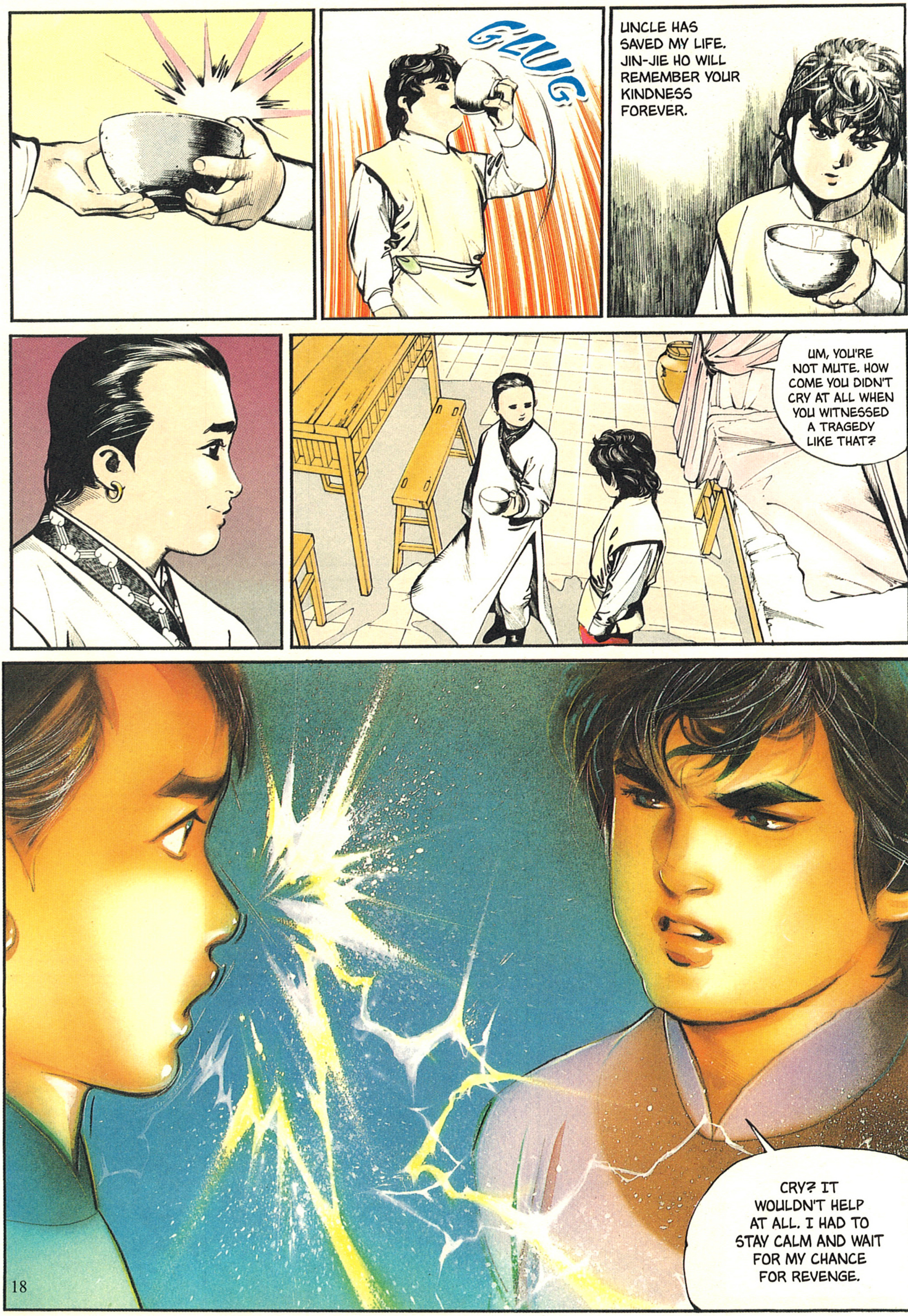

WHO IS IT?
MASTER, THIS BOY IS SO POOR. SHALL WE SAVE HIM?
SURE.
HEE...
JIEN-CHEN

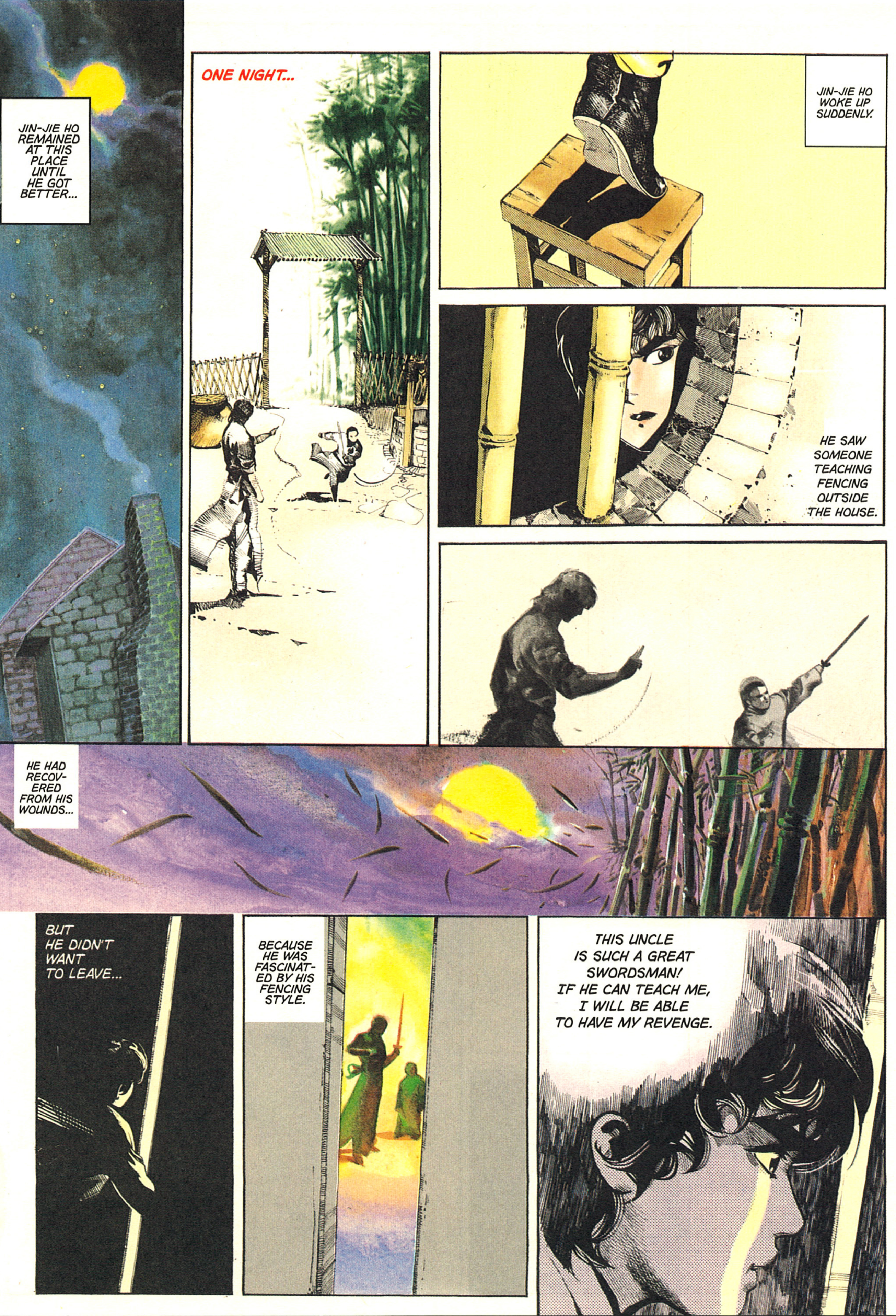


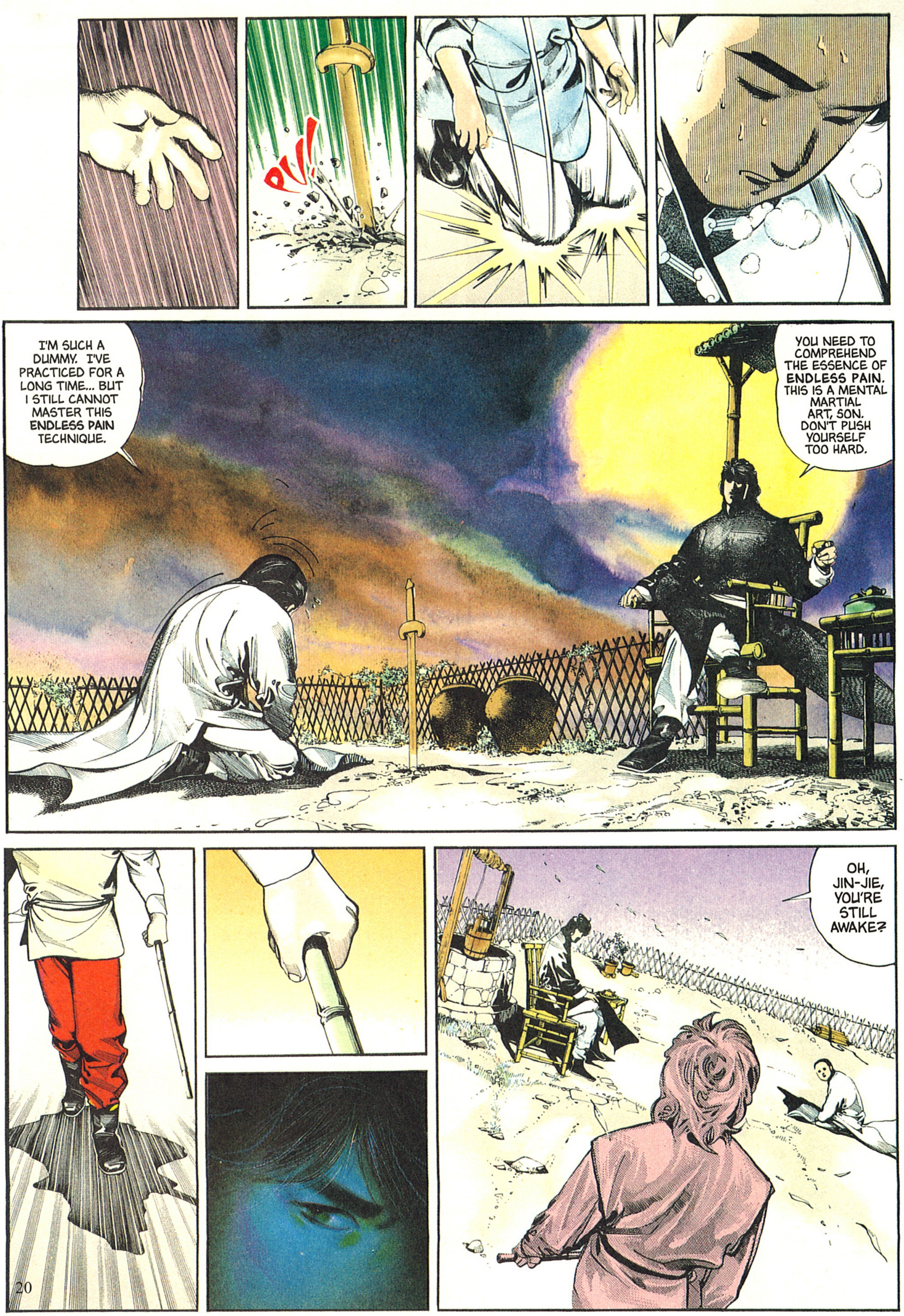

PERFECT SHAPE SHIFTING SKILLS! WHO IS THAT?
OH!

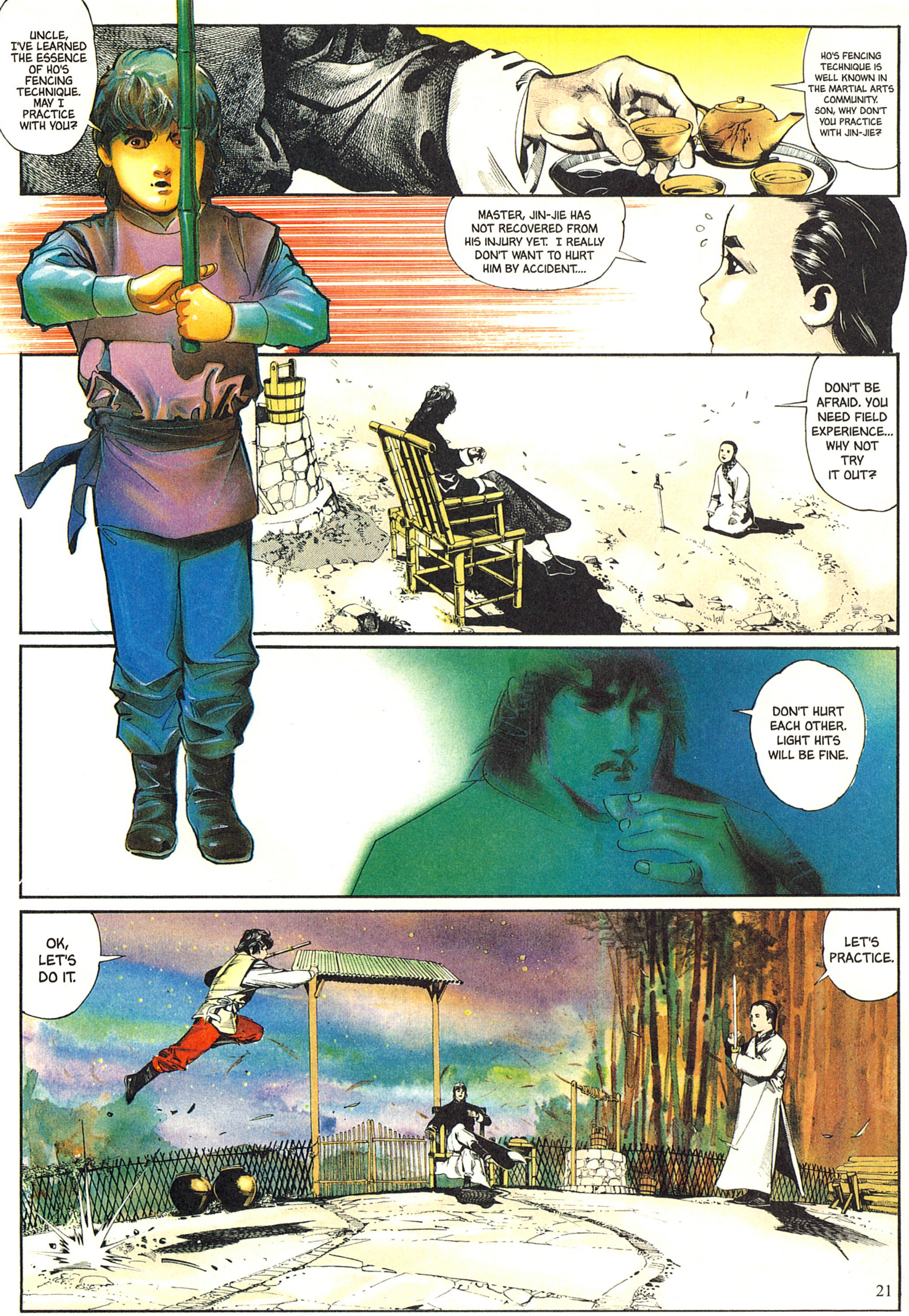

OH!
OH ?
MASTER, THAT BOY IS AWAKE NOW.
UM, PICK UP THE HERB MEDICINE ON THE TABLE TO SERVE HIM.
GOT IT!
OH?

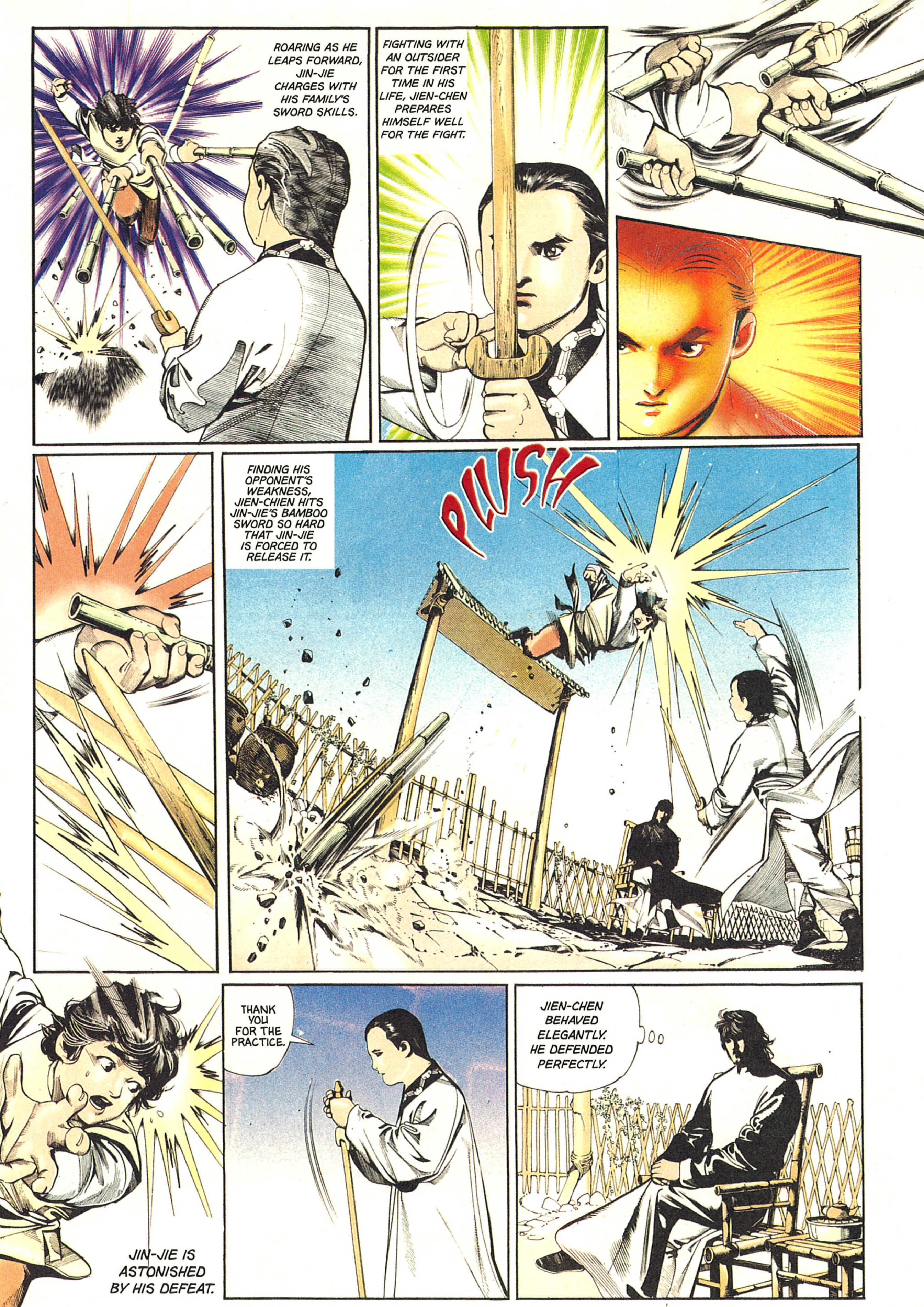

DON'T BE AFRAID, WE ARE NOT BAD GUYS.
CHILD, YOU WERE ABLE TO RECOVER FROM A BAD INJURY QUICKLY. I CAN TELL YOU'RE STRONG.
AH! THIS UNCLE HAS A STATELY APPEARANCE... HE LOOKS LIKE A GOD FROM THE HEAVENS.
MASTER, HE SEEMS TO BE MUTE.

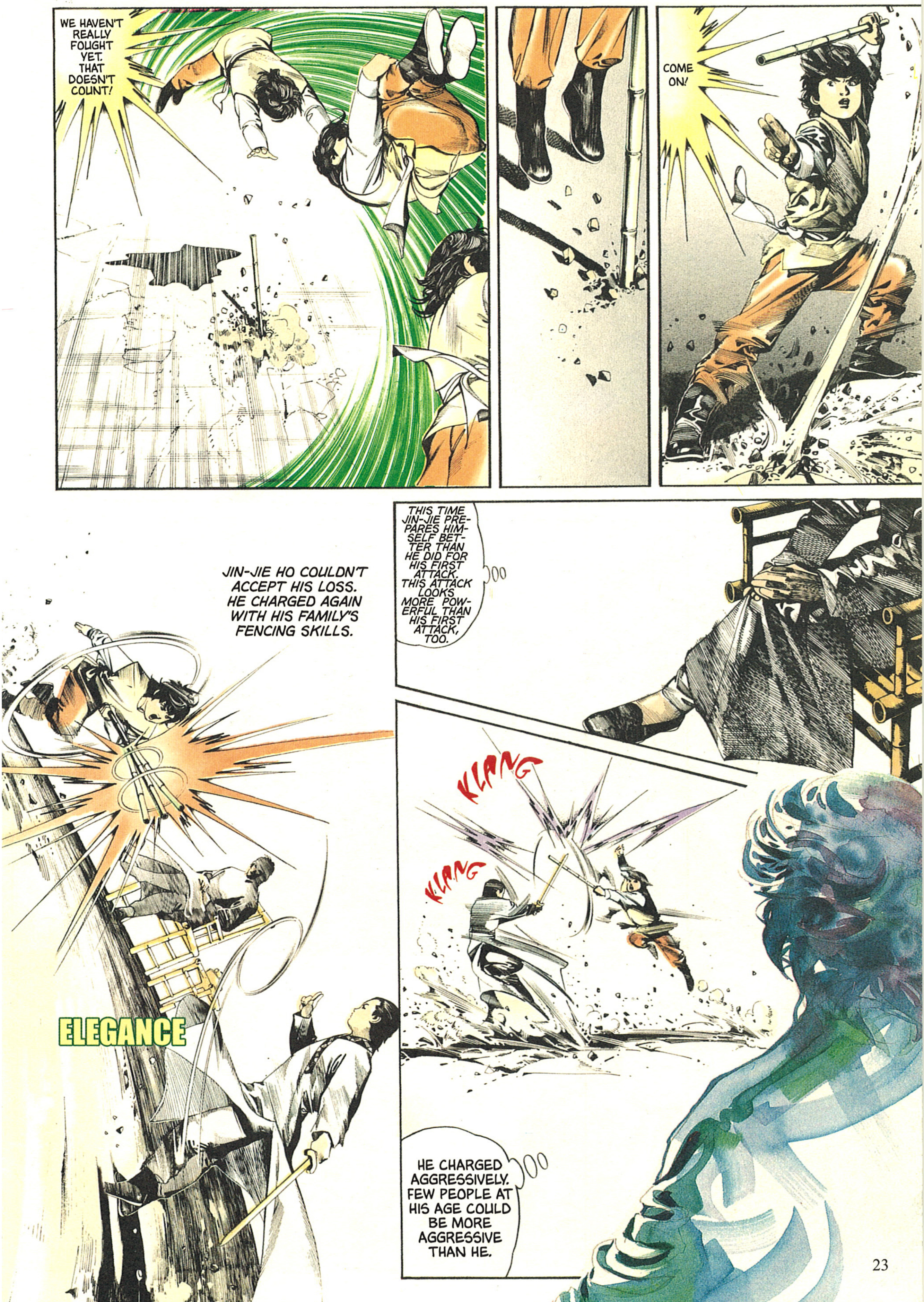

GLUG
UNCLE HAS SAVED MY LIFE. JIN-JIE HO WILL REMEMBER YOUR KINDNESS FOREVER.
UM, YOU'RE NOT MUTE. HOW COME YOU DIDN'T CRY AT ALL WHEN YOU WITNESSED A TRAGEDY LIKE THAT?
CRY? IT WOULDN'T HELP AT ALL. I HAD TO STAY CALM AND WAIT FOR MY CHANCE FOR REVENGE.

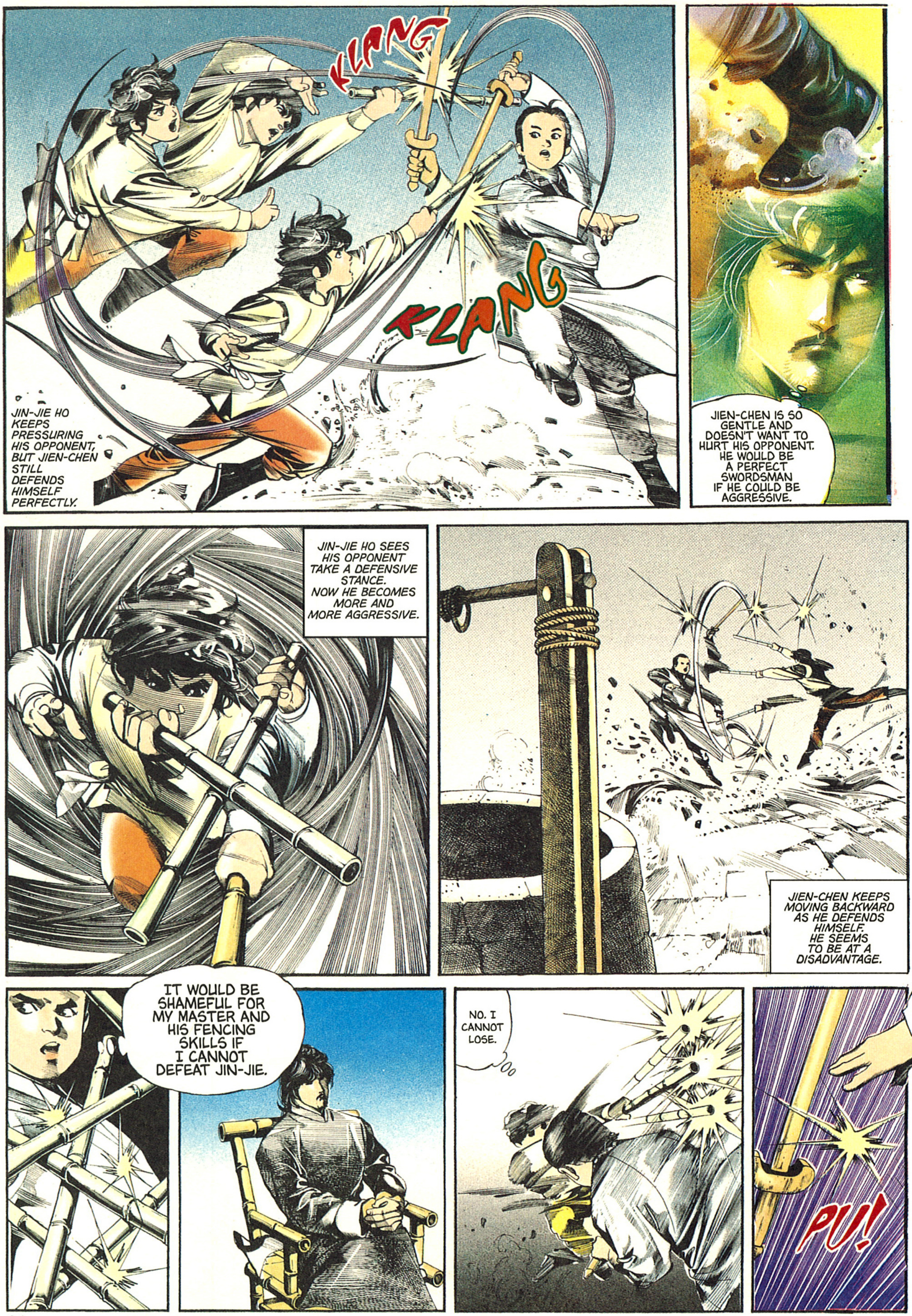

JIN-JIE HO REMAINED AT THIS PLACE UNTIL HE GOT BETTER...
ONE NIGHT...
JIN-JIE HO WOKE UP SUDDENLY.
HE SAW SOMEONE TEACHING FENCING OUTSIDE THE HOUSE.
HE HAD RECOVERED FROM HIS WOUNDS...
BUT HE DIDN'T WANT TO LEAVE...
BECAUSE HE WAS FASCINATED BY HIS FENCING STYLE.
THIS UNCLE IS SUCH A GREAT SWORDSMAN! IF HE CAN TEACH ME, I WILL BE ABLE TO HAVE MY REVENGE.

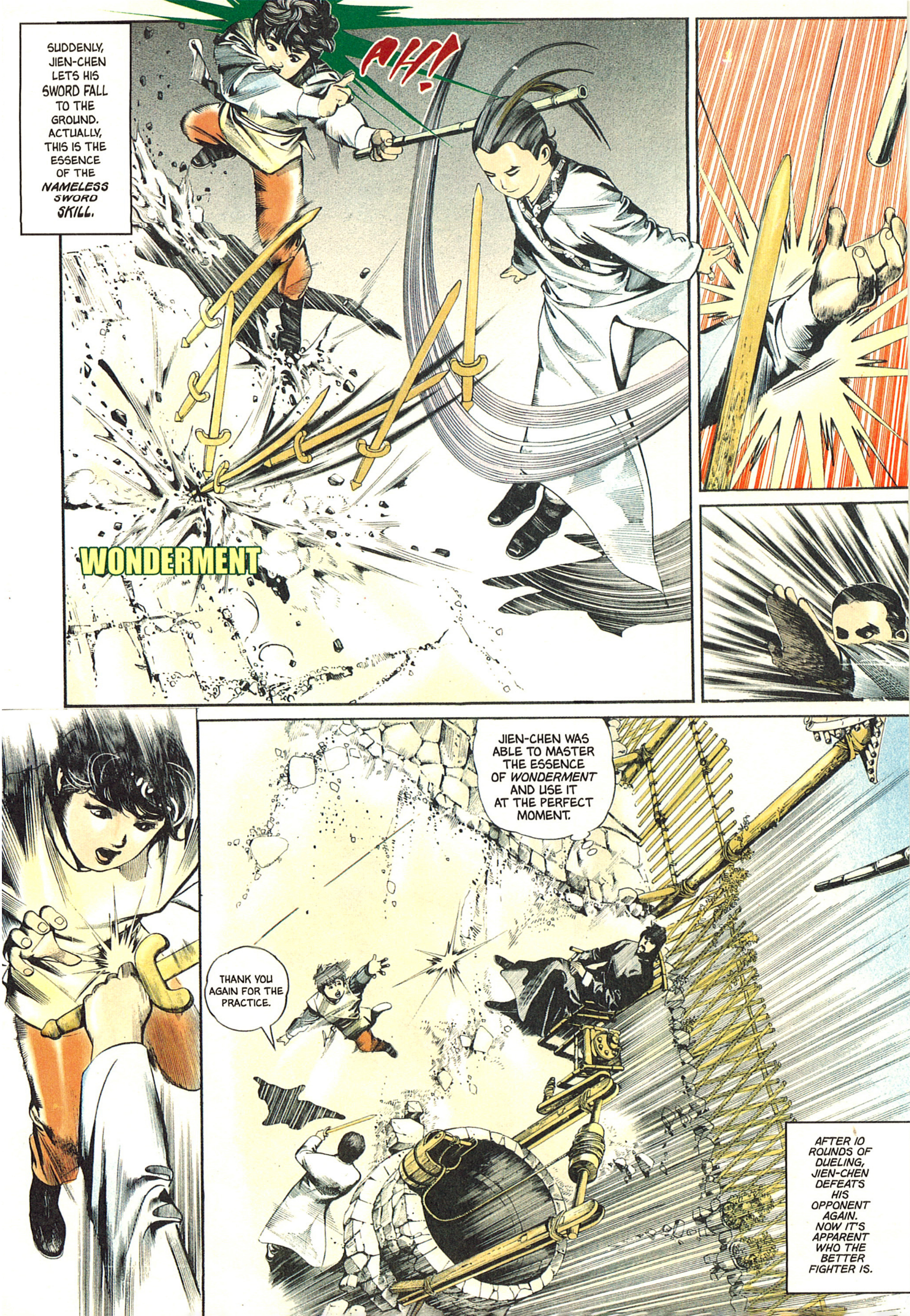

PU!
I'M SUCH A DUMMY. I'VE PRACTICED FOR A LONG TIME... BUT I STILL CANNOT MASTER THIS ENDLESS PAIN TECHNIQUE.
YOU NEED TO COMPREHEND THE ESSENCE OF ENDLESS PAIN. THIS IS A MENTAL MARTIAL ART, SON. DON'T PUSH YOURSELF TOO HARD.
OH, JIN-JIE, YOU'RE STILL AWAKE?

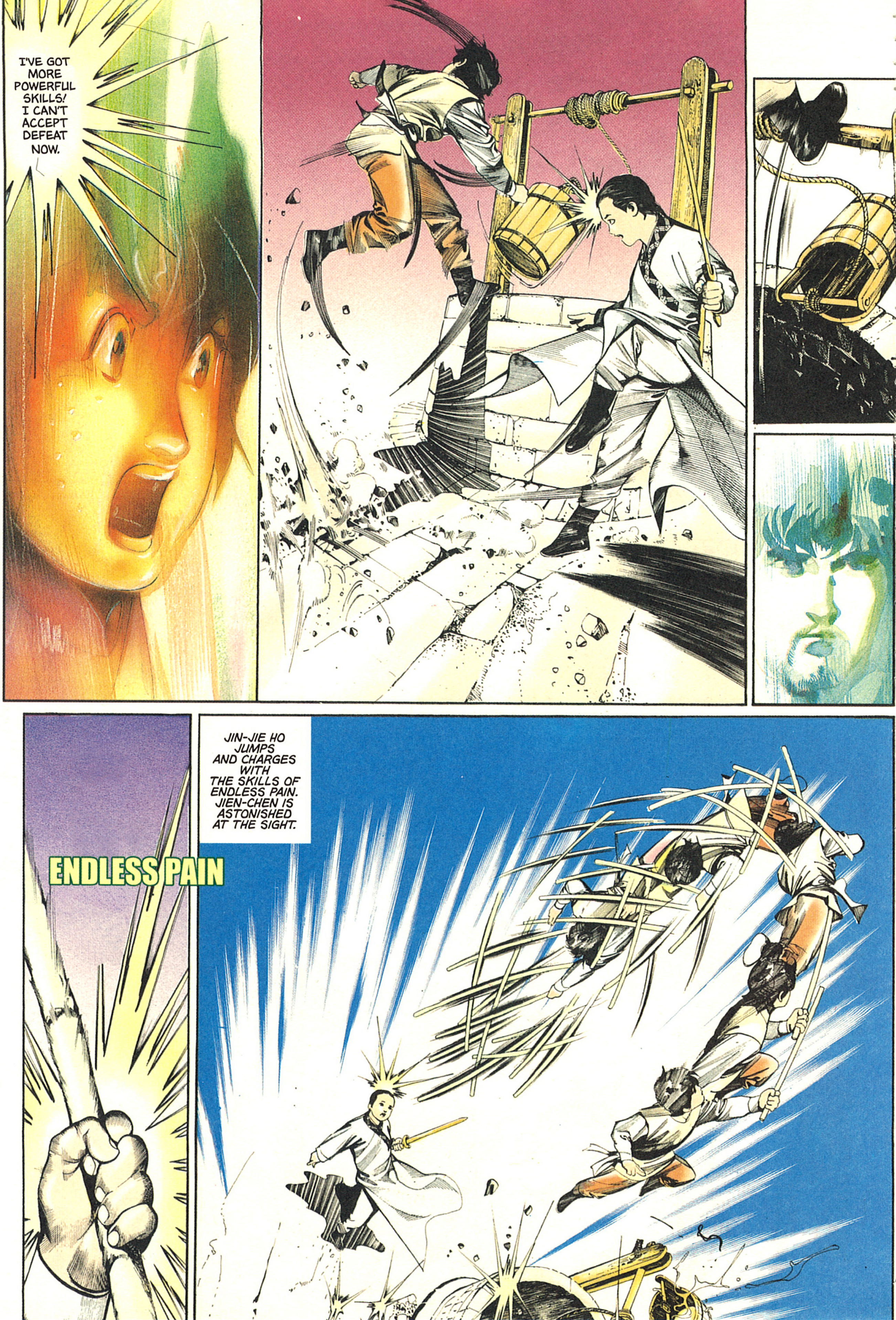

UNCLE, I'VE LEARNED THE ESSENCE OF HO'S FENCING TECHNIQUE. MAY I PRACTICE WITH YOU?
HO'S FENCING TECHNIQUE IS WELL KNOWN IN THE MARTIAL ARTS COMMUNITY. SON, WHY DON'T YOU PRACTICE WITH JIN-JIE?
MASTER, JIN-JIE HAS NOT RECOVERED FROM HIS INJURY YET. I REALLY DON'T WANT TO HURT HIM BY ACCIDENT....
DON'T BE AFRAID. YOU NEED FIELD EXPERIENCE... WHY NOT TRY IT OUT?
DON'T HURT EACH OTHER. LIGHT HITS WILL BE FINE.
OK, LET'S DO IT.
LET'S PRACTICE.

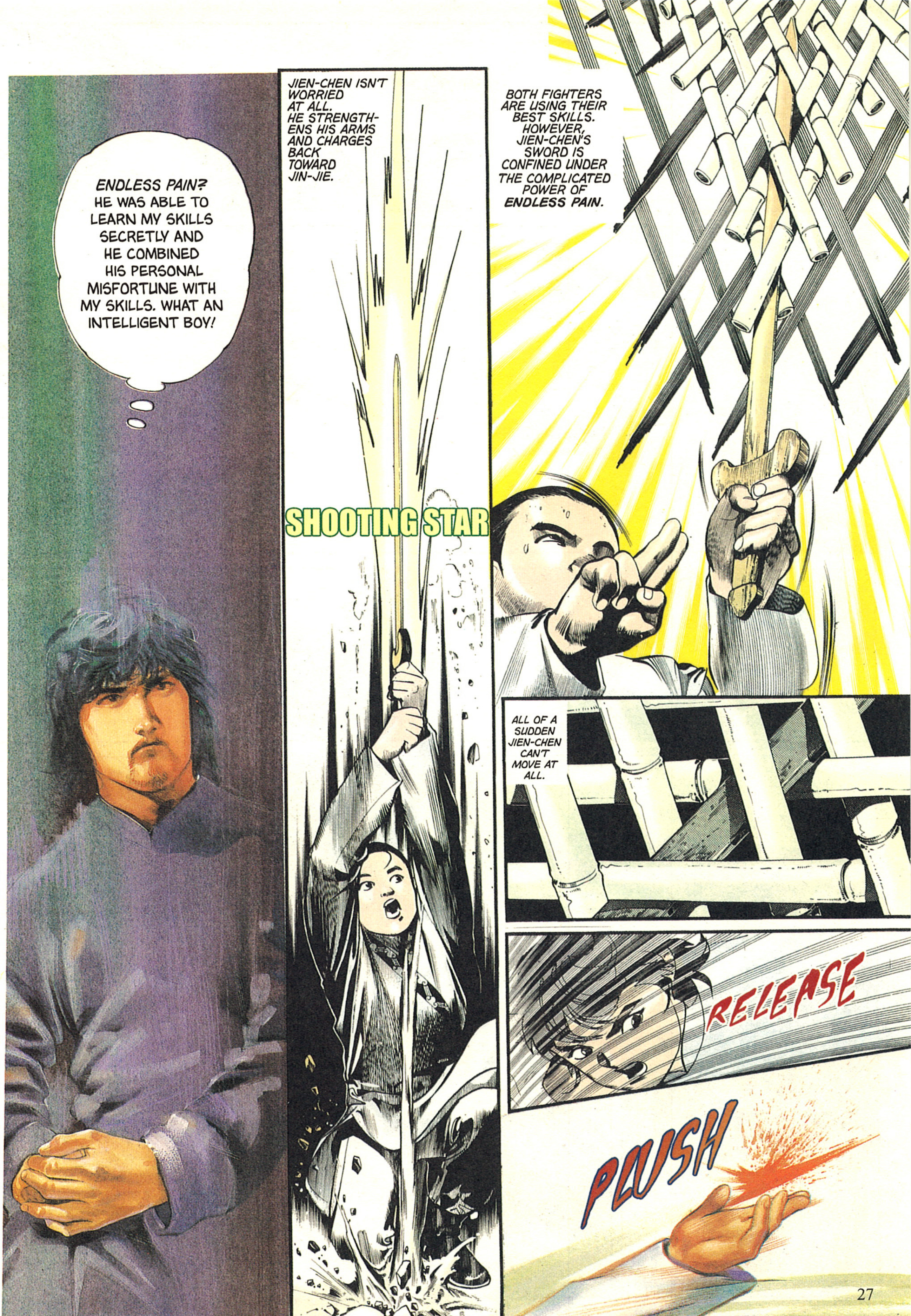

ROARING AS HE LEAPS FORWARD, JIN-JIE CHARGES WITH HIS FAMILY'S SWORD SKILLS.
FIGHTING WITH AN OUTSIDER FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS LIFE, JIEN-CHEN PREPARES HIMSELF WELL FOR THE FIGHT.
FINDING HIS OPPONENT'S WEAKNESS, JIEN-CHIEN HITS JIN-JIE'S BAMBOO SWORD SO HARD THAT JIN-JIE IS FORCED TO RELEASE IT.
PLUSH
JIN-JIE IS ASTONISHED BY HIS DEFEAT.
THANK YOU FOR THE PRACTICE.
JIEN-CHEN BEHAVED ELEGANTLY. HE DEFENDED PERFECTLY.

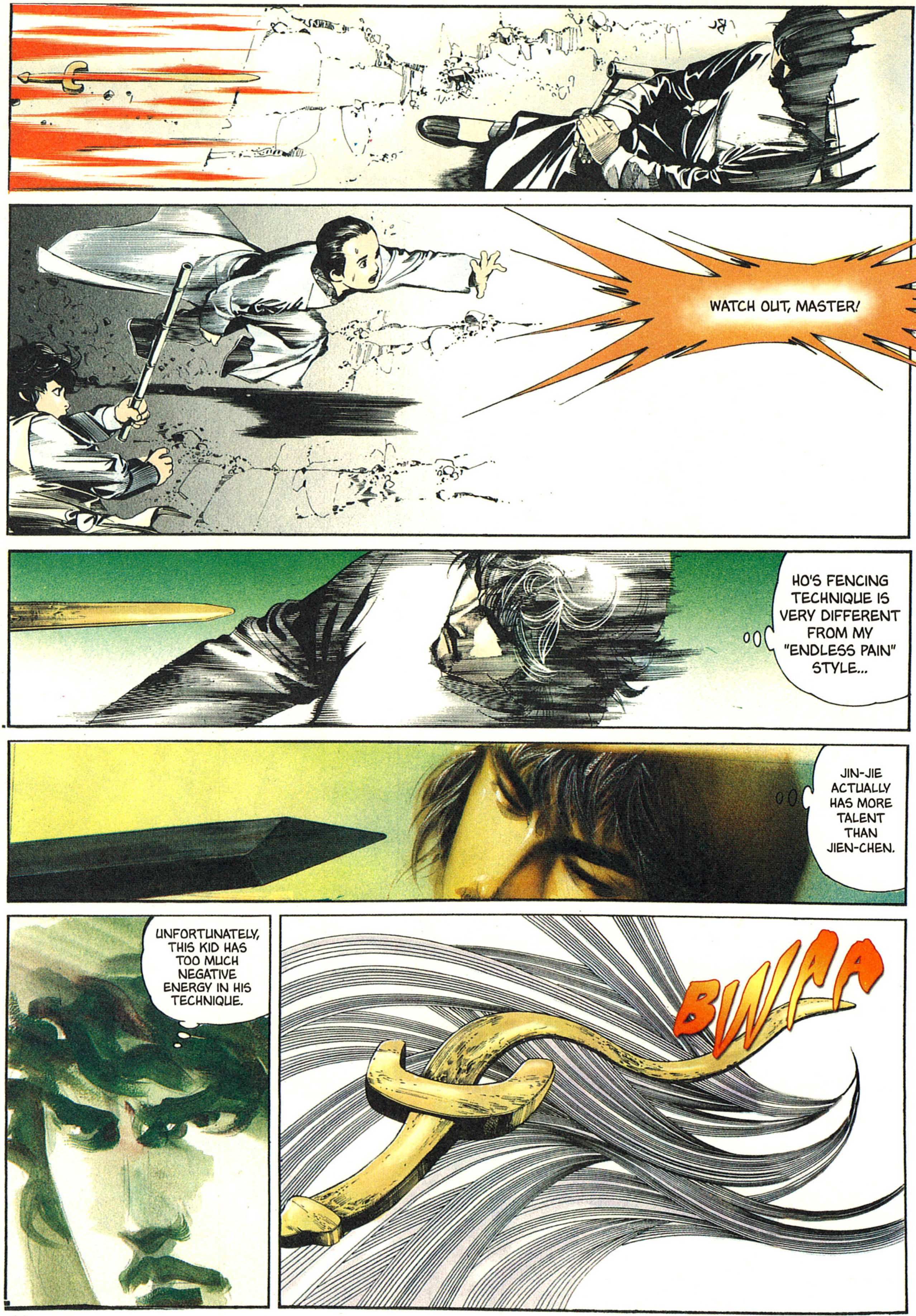

WE HAVEN'T REALLY FOUGHT YET. THAT DOESN'T COUNT!
COME ON!
THIS TIME JIN-JIE PREPARES HIMSELF BETTER THAN HE DID FOR HIS FIRST ATTACK. THIS ATTACK LOOKS MORE POWERFUL THAN HIS FIRST ATTACK, TOO.
JIN-JIE HO COULDN'T ACCEPT HIS LOSS. HE CHARGED AGAIN WITH HIS FAMILY'S FENCING SKILLS.
KLANG
KLANG
ELEGANCE
HE CHARGED AGGRESSIVELY. FEW PEOPLE AT HIS AGE COULD BE MORE AGGRESSIVE THAN HE.

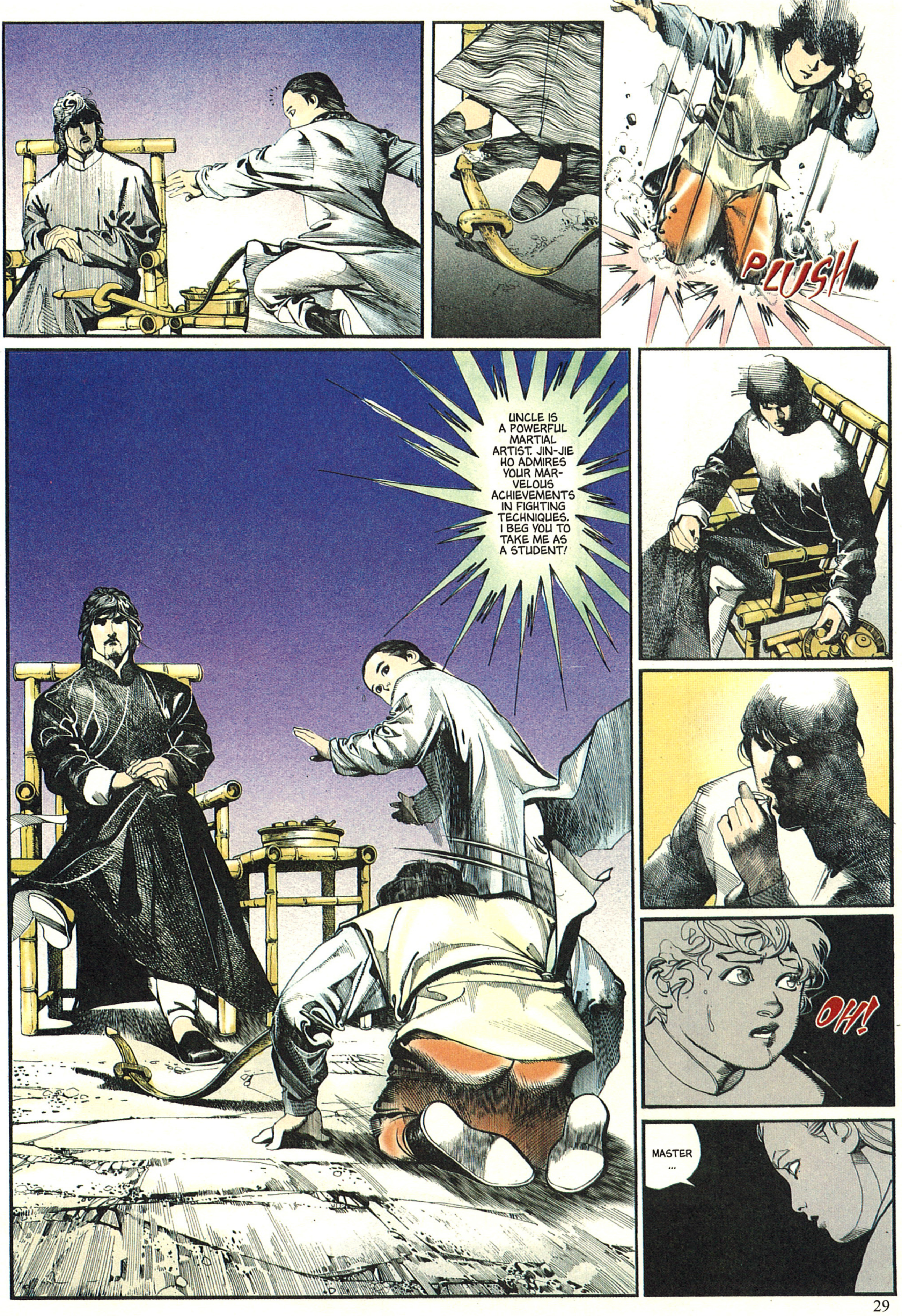

KLANG
KLANG
JIN-JIE HO KEEPS PRESSURING HIS OPPONENT, BUT JIEN-CHEN STILL DEFENDS HIMSELF PERFECTLY.
JIEN-CHEN IS SO GENTLE AND DOESN'T WANT TO HURT HIS OPPONENT. HE WOULD BE A PERFECT SWORDSMAN IF HE COULD BE AGGRESSIVE.
JIN-JIE HO SEES HIS OPPONENT TAKE A DEFENSIVE STANCE. NOW HE BECOMES MORE AND MORE AGGRESSIVE.
JIEN-CHEN KEEPS MOVING BACKWARD AS HE DEFENDS HIMSELF. HE SEEMS TO BE AT A DISADVANTAGE.
IT WOULD BE SHAMEFUL FOR MY MASTER AND HIS FENCING SKILLS IF I CANNOT DEFEAT JIN-JIE.
NO. I CANNOT LOSE.
PU!

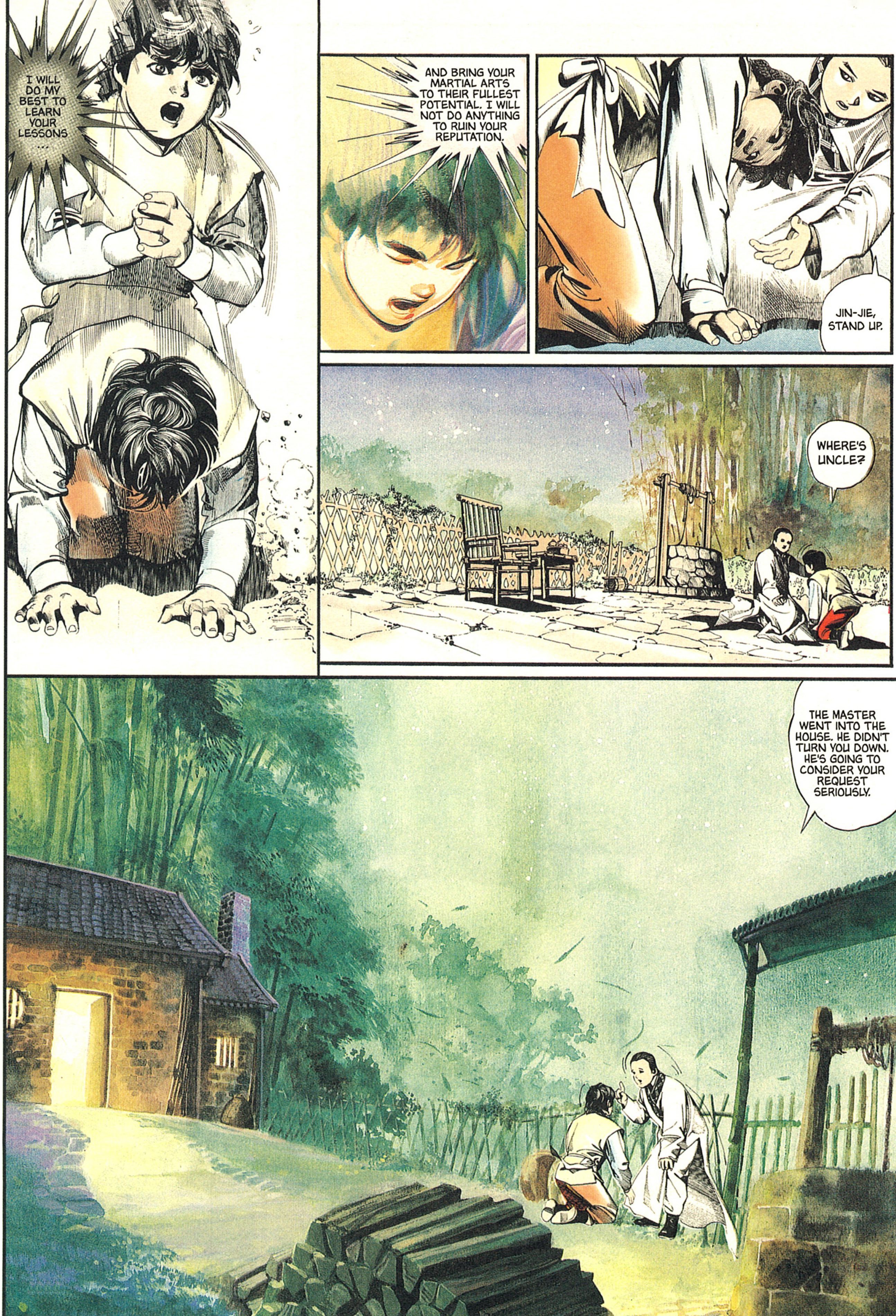

SUDDENLY, JIEN-CHEN LETS HIS SWORD FALL TO THE GROUND. ACTUALLY, THIS IS THE ESSENCE OF THE *NAMELESS SWORD SKILL.*
AH!
WONDERMENT
JIEN-CHEN WAS ABLE TO MASTER THE ESSENCE OF *WONDERMENT* AND USE IT AT THE PERFECT MOMENT.
THANK YOU AGAIN FOR THE PRACTICE.
*AFTER 10 ROUNDS OF DUELING, JIEN-CHEN DEFEATS HIS OPPONENT AGAIN. NOW IT'S APPARENT WHO THE BETTER FIGHTER IS.*

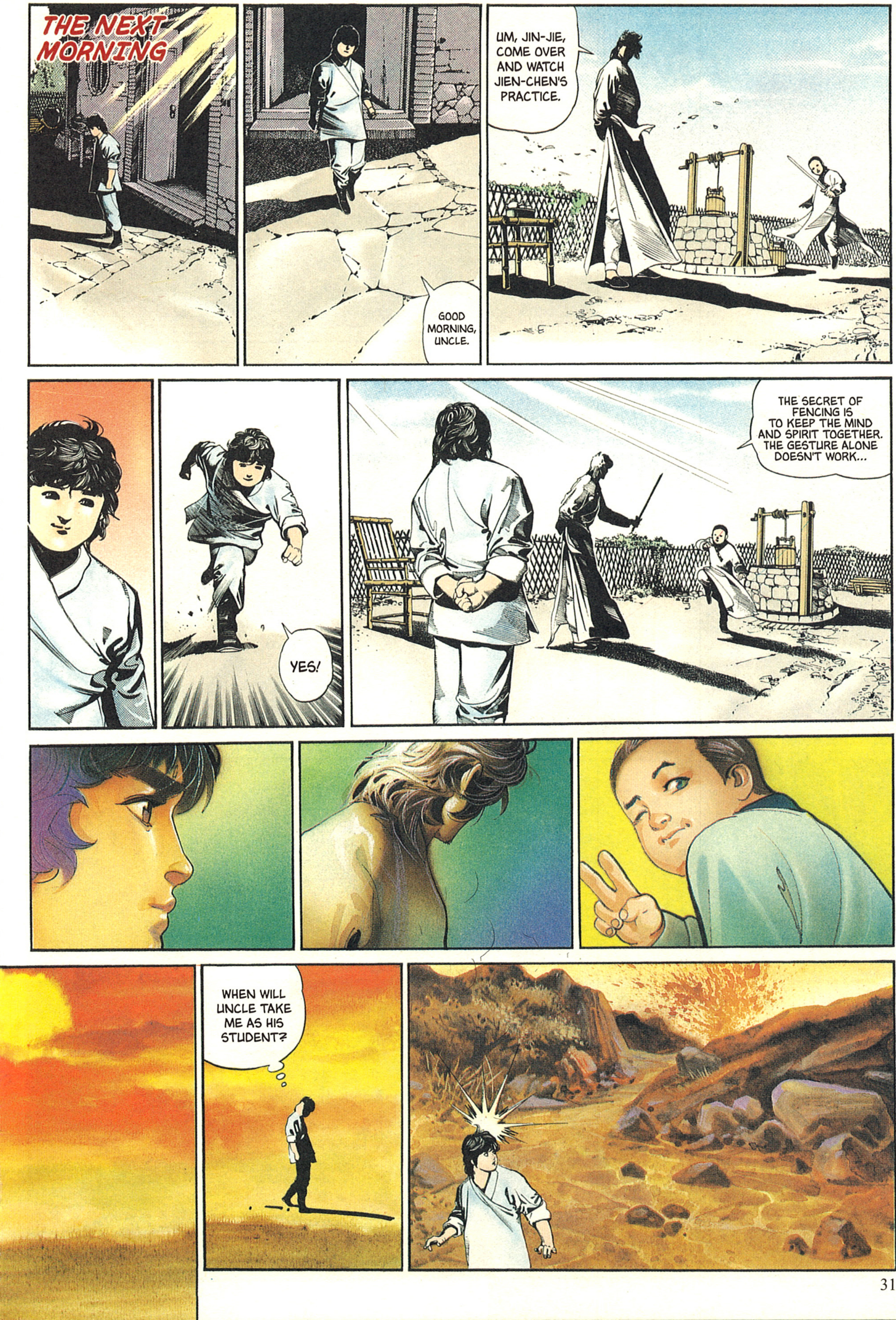

I'VE GOT MORE POWERFUL SKILLS! I CAN'T ACCEPT DEFEAT NOW.
ENDLESS PAIN
JIN-JIE HO JUMPS AND CHARGES WITH THE SKILLS OF ENDLESS PAIN. JIEN-CHEN IS ASTONISHED AT THE SIGHT.

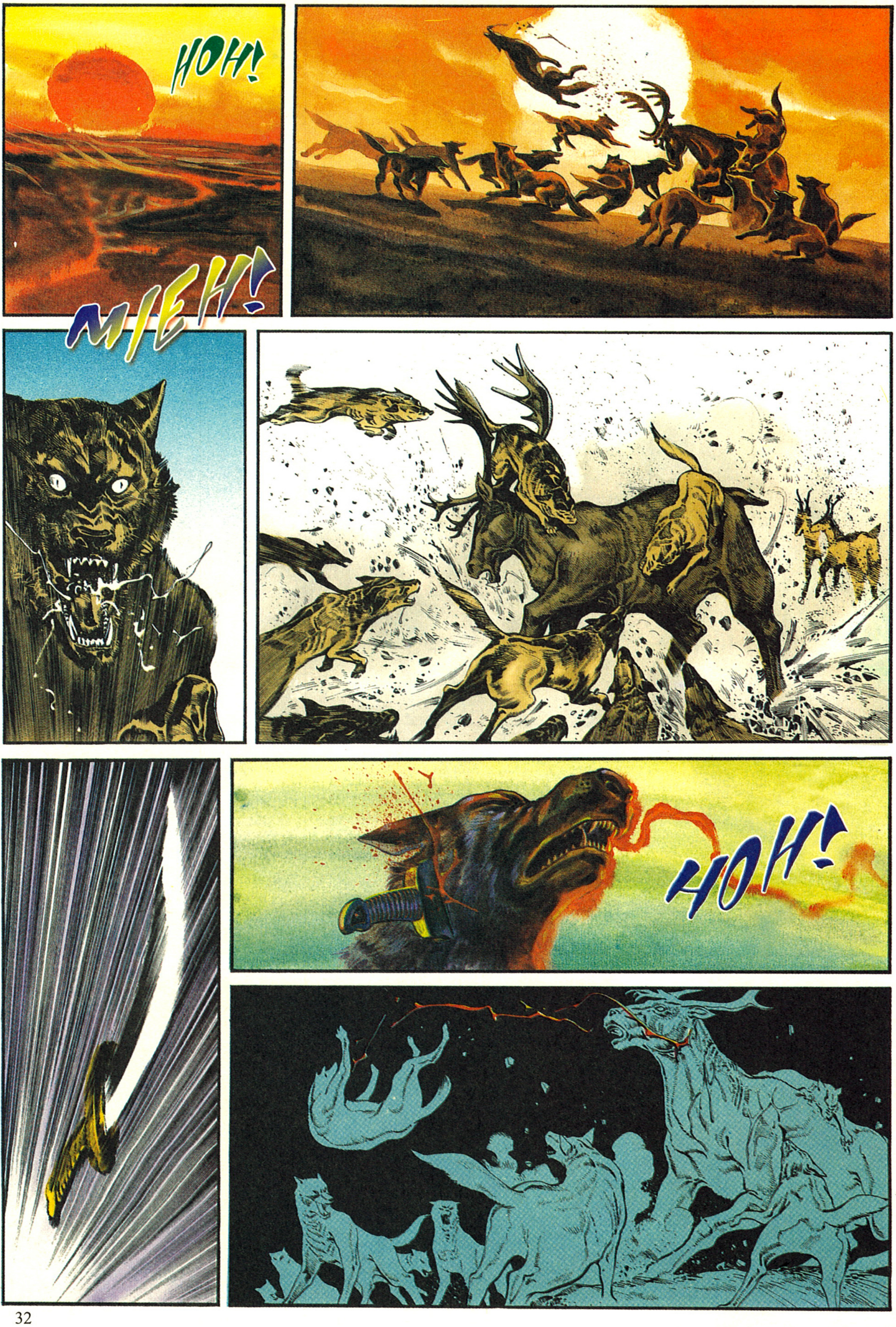

ENDLESS PAIN? HE WAS ABLE TO LEARN MY SKILLS SECRETLY AND HE COMBINED HIS PERSONAL MISFORTUNE WITH MY SKILLS. WHAT AN INTELLIGENT BOY!
JIEN-CHEN ISN'T WORRIED AT ALL. HE STRENGTHENS HIS ARMS AND CHARGES BACK TOWARD JIN-JIE.
SHOOTING STAR
BOTH FIGHTERS ARE USING THEIR BEST SKILLS. HOWEVER, JIEN-CHEN'S SWORD IS CONFINED UNDER THE COMPLICATED POWER OF ENDLESS PAIN.
ALL OF A SUDDEN JIEN-CHEN CAN'T MOVE AT ALL.
RELEASE
PLUSH

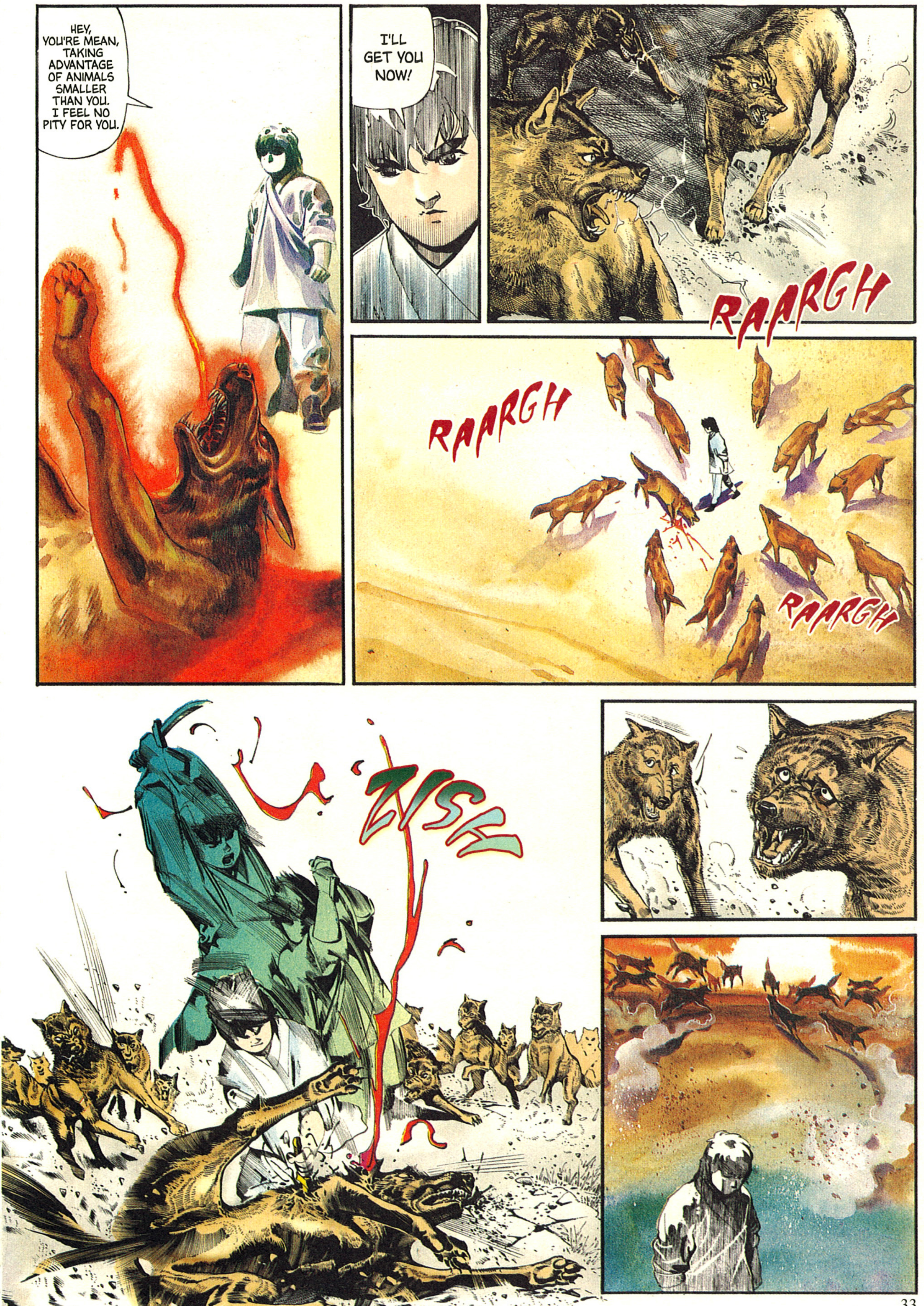

WATCH OUT, MASTER!
HO'S FENCING TECHNIQUE IS VERY DIFFERENT FROM MY "ENDLESS PAIN" STYLE...
JIN-JIE ACTUALLY HAS MORE TALENT THAN JIEN-CHEN.
UNFORTUNATELY, THIS KID HAS TOO MUCH NEGATIVE ENERGY IN HIS TECHNIQUE.
BWAA

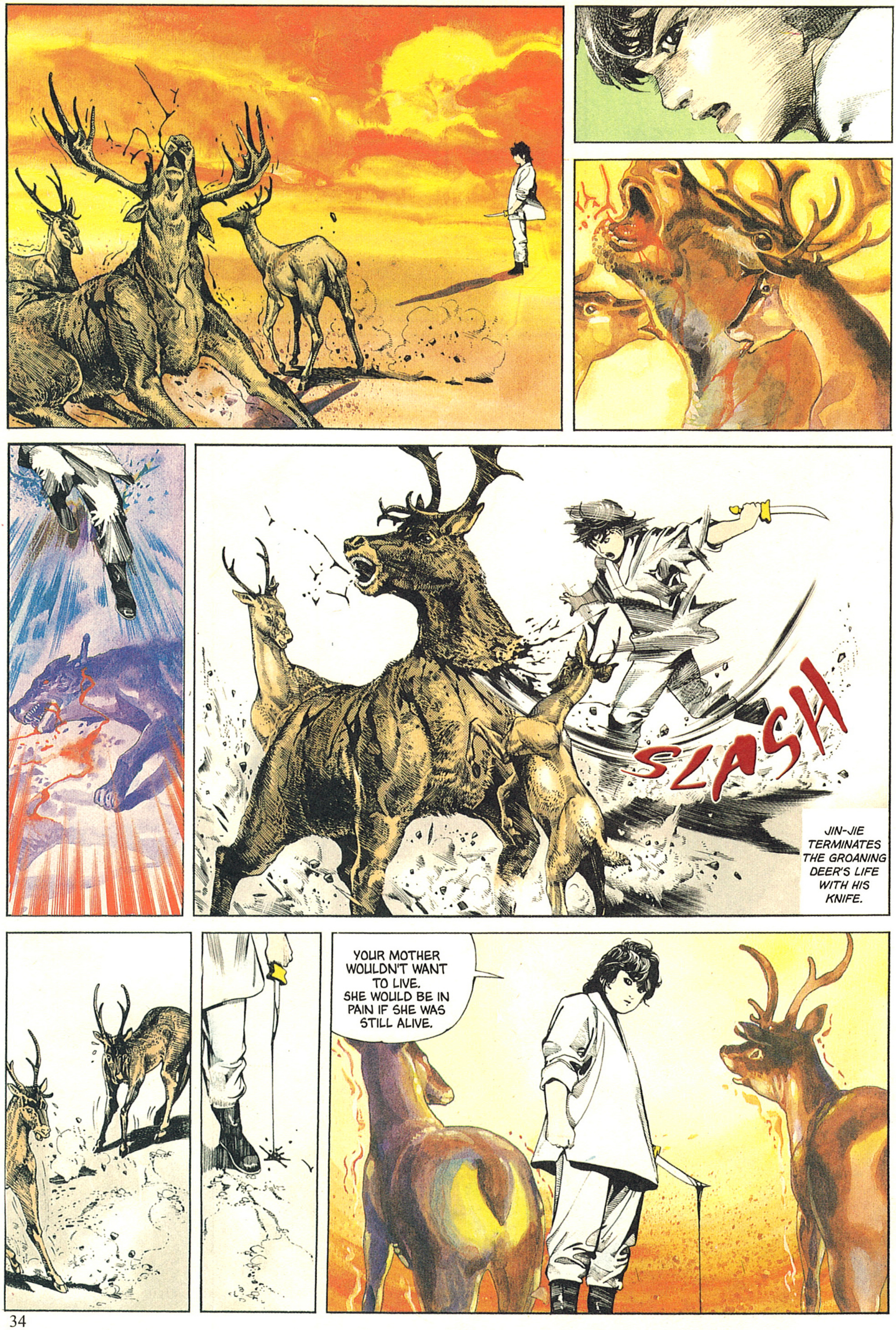

PLUSH
UNCLE IS A POWERFUL MARTIAL ARTIST. JIN-JIE HO ADMIRES YOUR MARVELOUS ACHIEVEMENTS IN FIGHTING TECHNIQUES. I BEG YOU TO TAKE ME AS A STUDENT!
OH!
MASTER ...

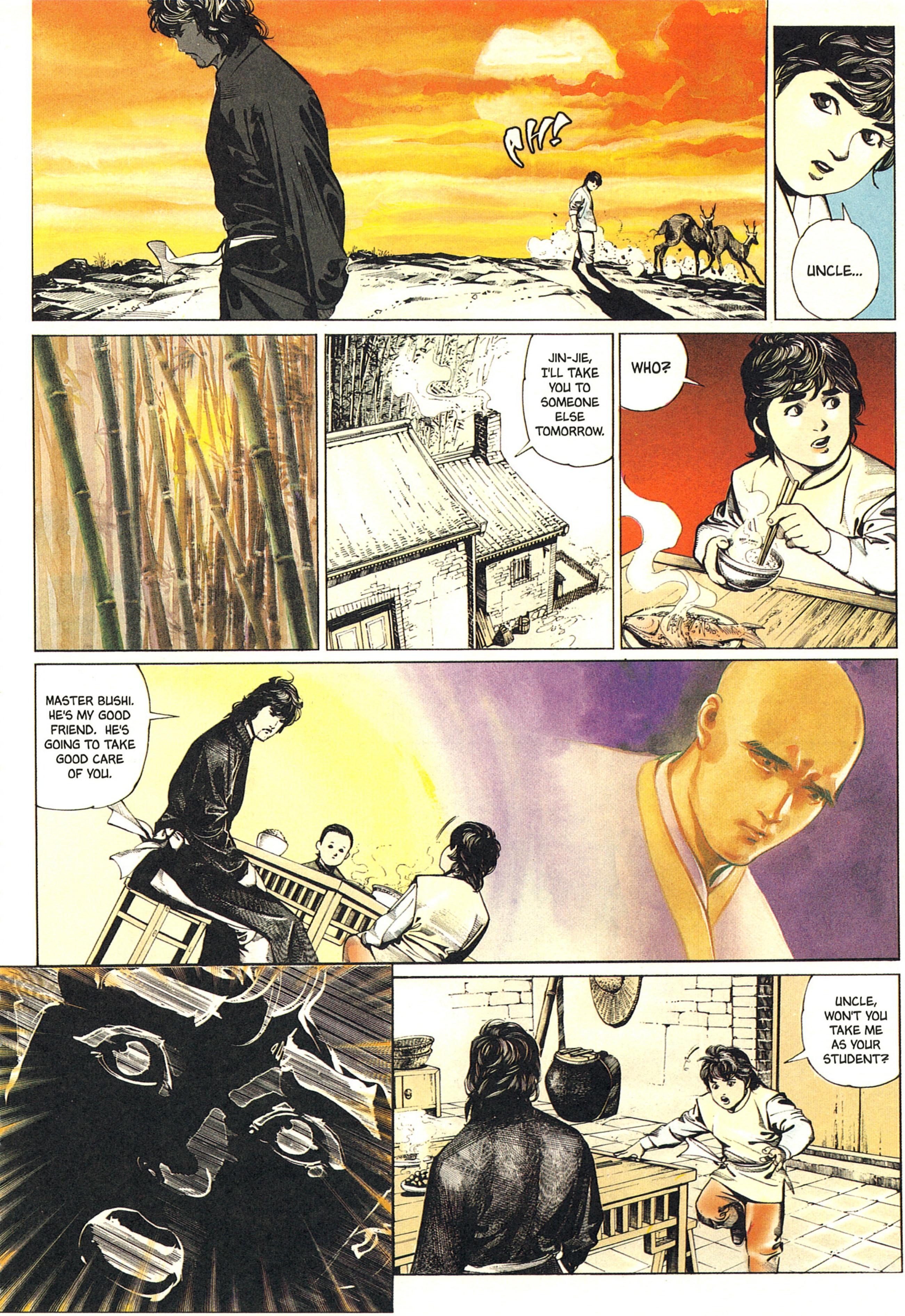

I WILL DO MY BEST TO LEARN YOUR LESSONS ...
AND BRING YOUR MARTIAL ARTS TO THEIR FULLEST POTENTIAL. I WILL NOT DO ANYTHING TO RUIN YOUR REPUTATION.
JIN-JIE, STAND UP.
WHERE'S UNCLE?
THE MASTER WENT INTO THE HOUSE. HE DIDN'T TURN YOU DOWN. HE'S GOING TO CONSIDER YOUR REQUEST SERIOUSLY.

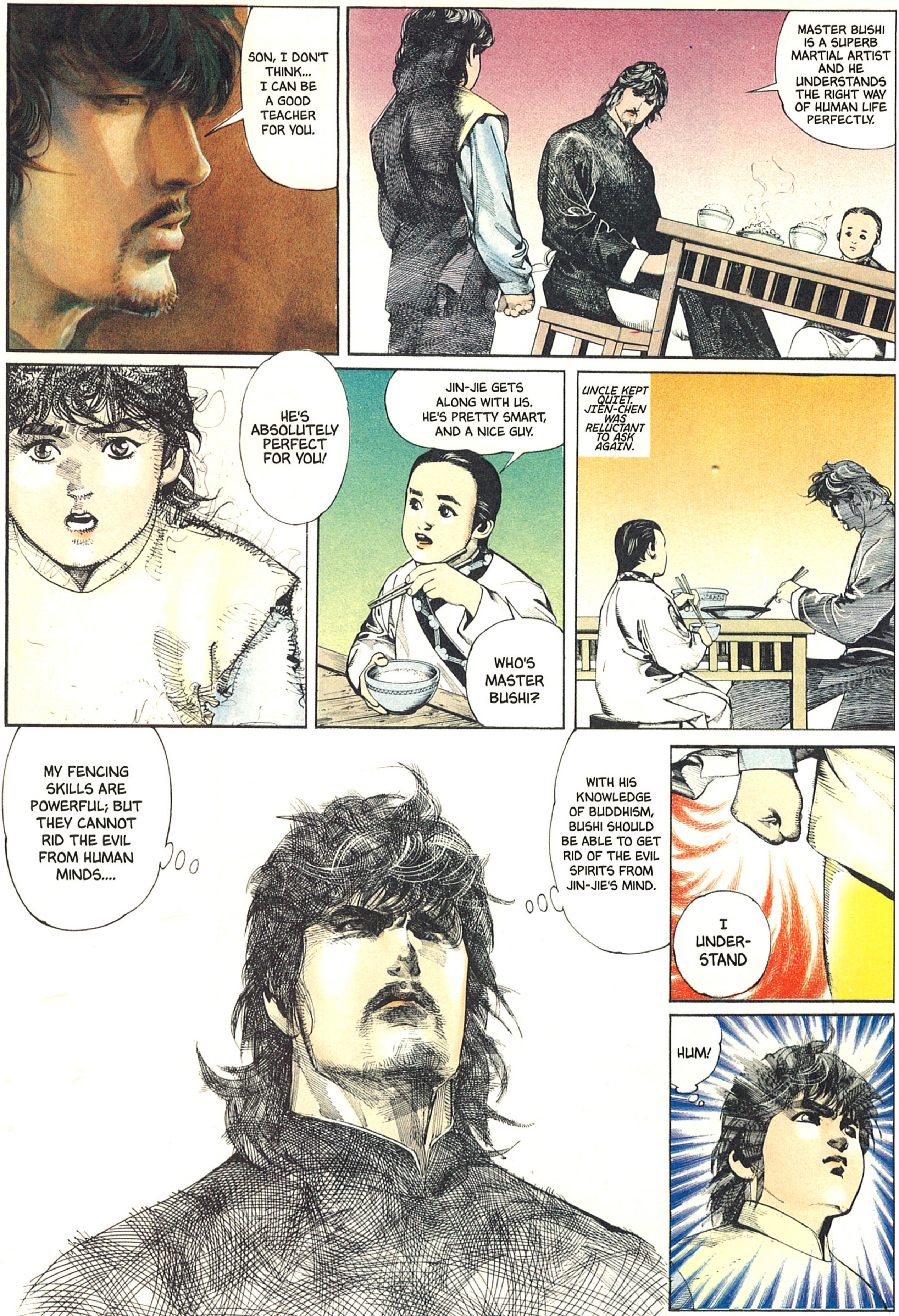

THE NEXT MORNING
GOOD MORNING, UNCLE.
UM, JIN-JIE, COME OVER AND WATCH JIEN-CHEN'S PRACTICE.
YES!
THE SECRET OF FENCING IS TO KEEP THE MIND AND SPIRIT TOGETHER. THE GESTURE ALONE DOESN'T WORK...
WHEN WILL UNCLE TAKE ME AS HIS STUDENT?

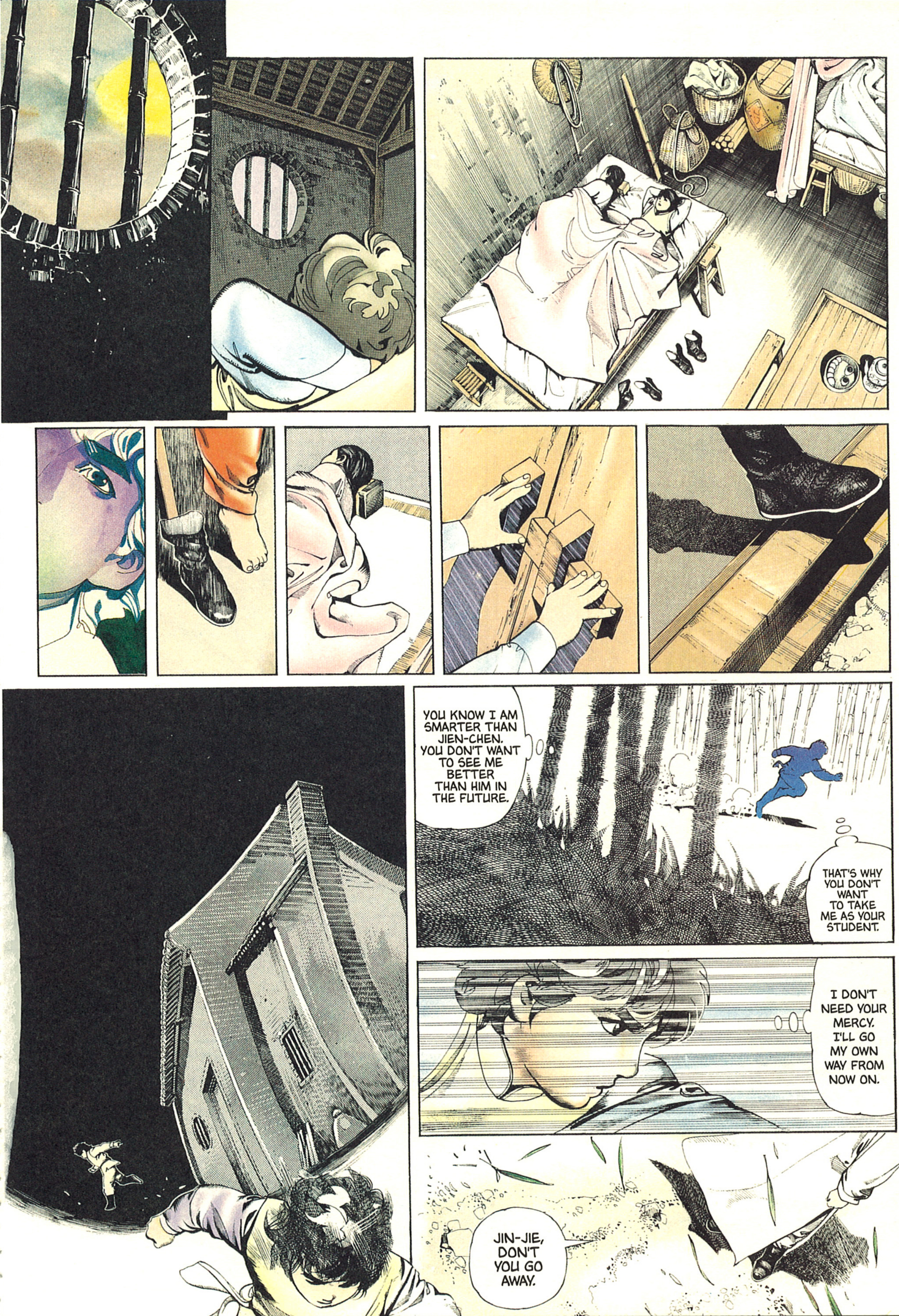

HOH!
MIEH!
HOH!

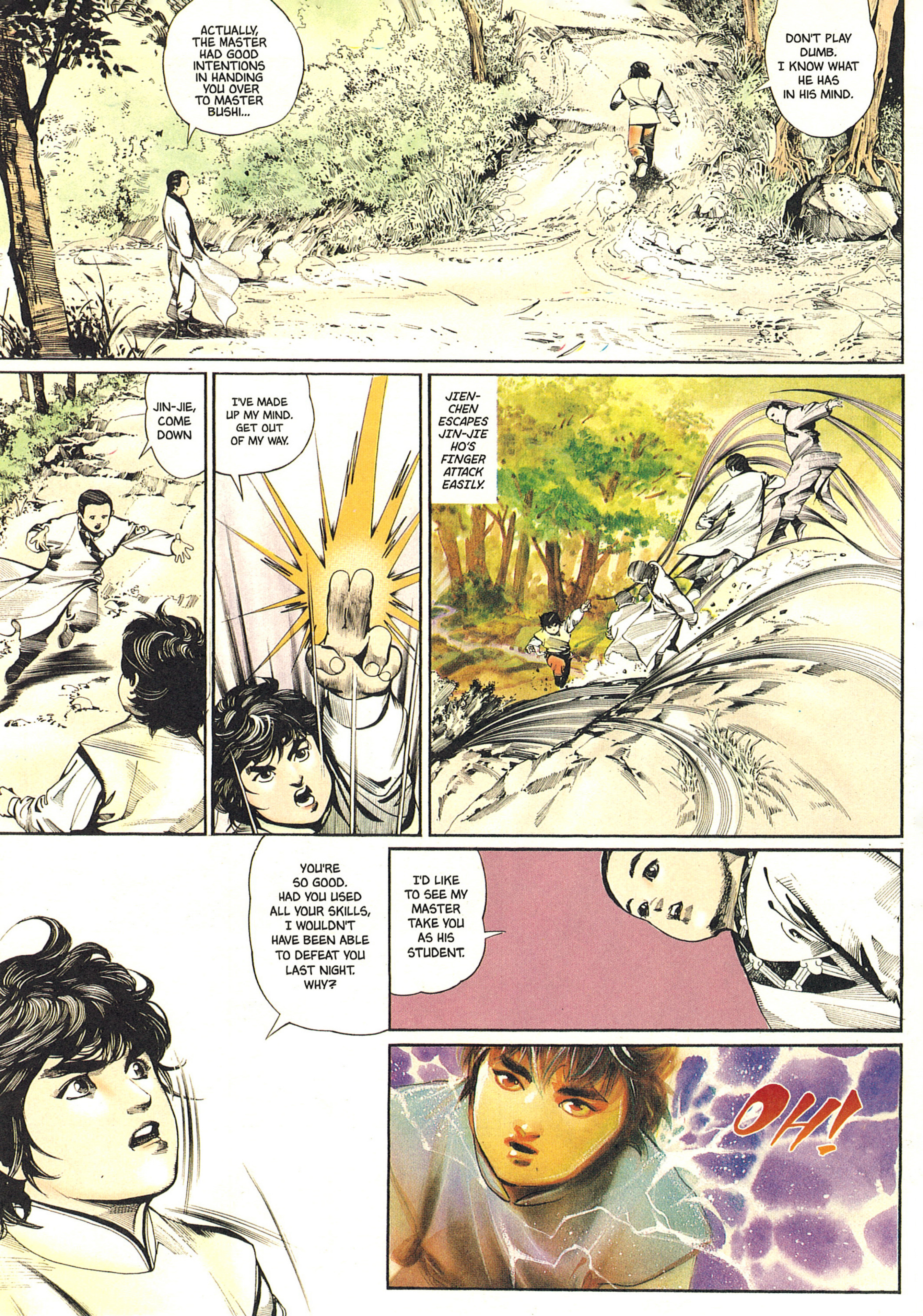

HEY, YOU'RE MEAN, TAKING ADVANTAGE OF ANIMALS SMALLER THAN YOU. I FEEL NO PITY FOR YOU.
I'LL GET YOU NOW!
RAARGH
RAARGH
RAARGH
ZISH

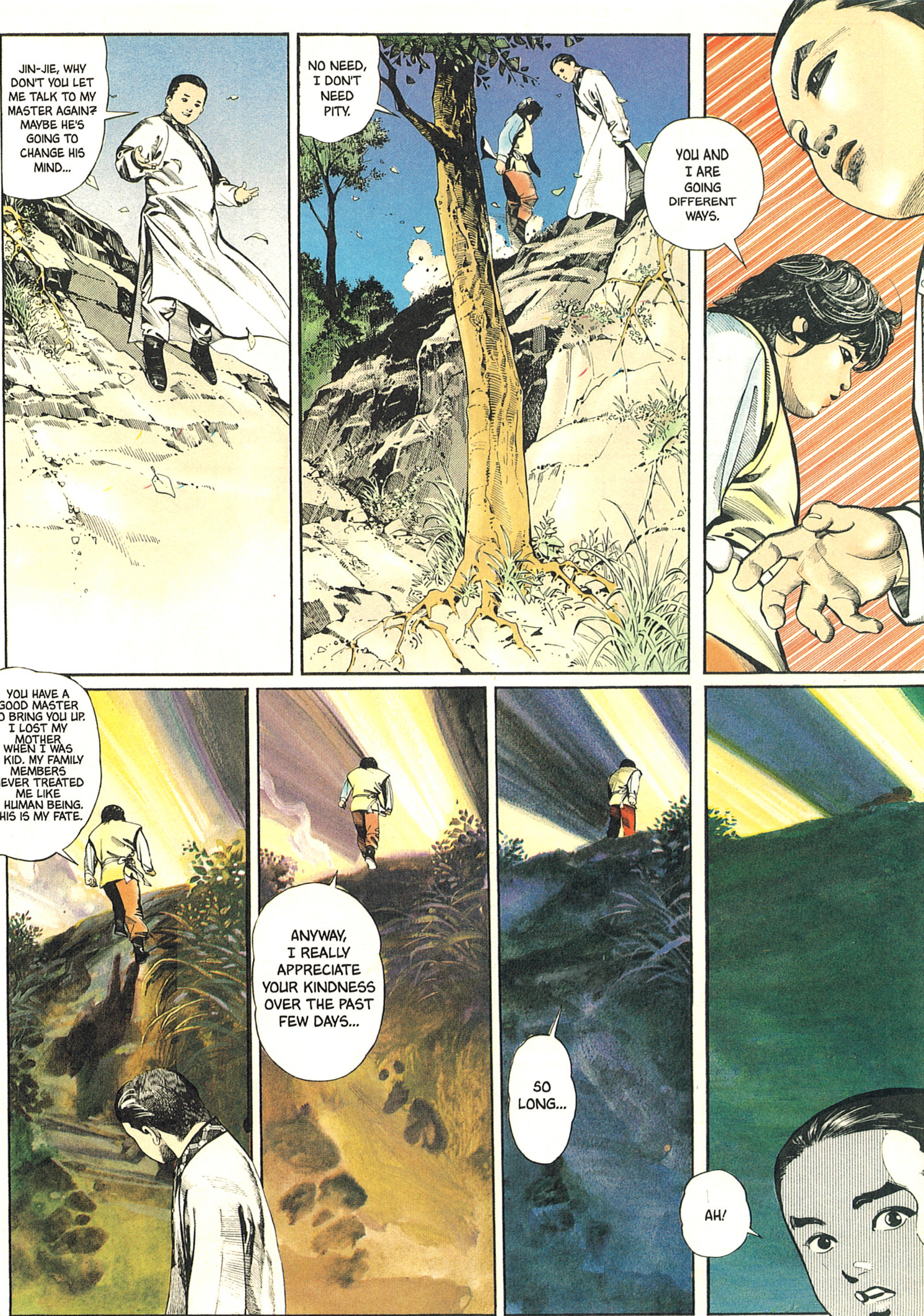

SLASH
JIN-JIE TERMINATES THE GROANING DEER'S LIFE WITH HIS KNIFE.
YOUR MOTHER WOULDN'T WANT TO LIVE. SHE WOULD BE IN PAIN IF SHE WAS STILL ALIVE.

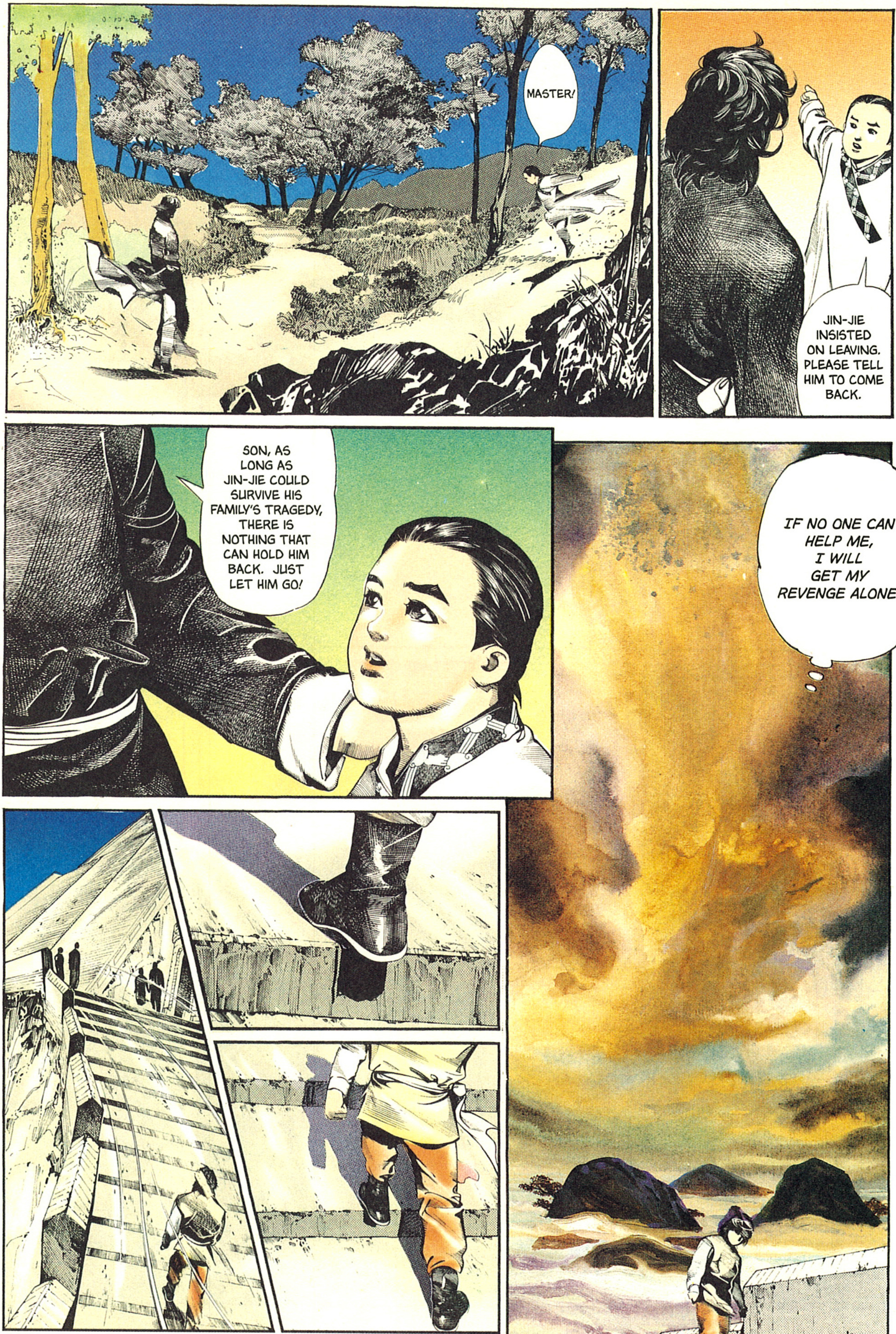

PH!
UNCLE...
JIN-JIE, I'LL TAKE YOU TO SOMEONE ELSE TOMORROW.
WHO?
MASTER BUSHI. HE'S MY GOOD FRIEND. HE'S GOING TO TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOU.
UNCLE, WON'T YOU TAKE ME AS YOUR STUDENT?

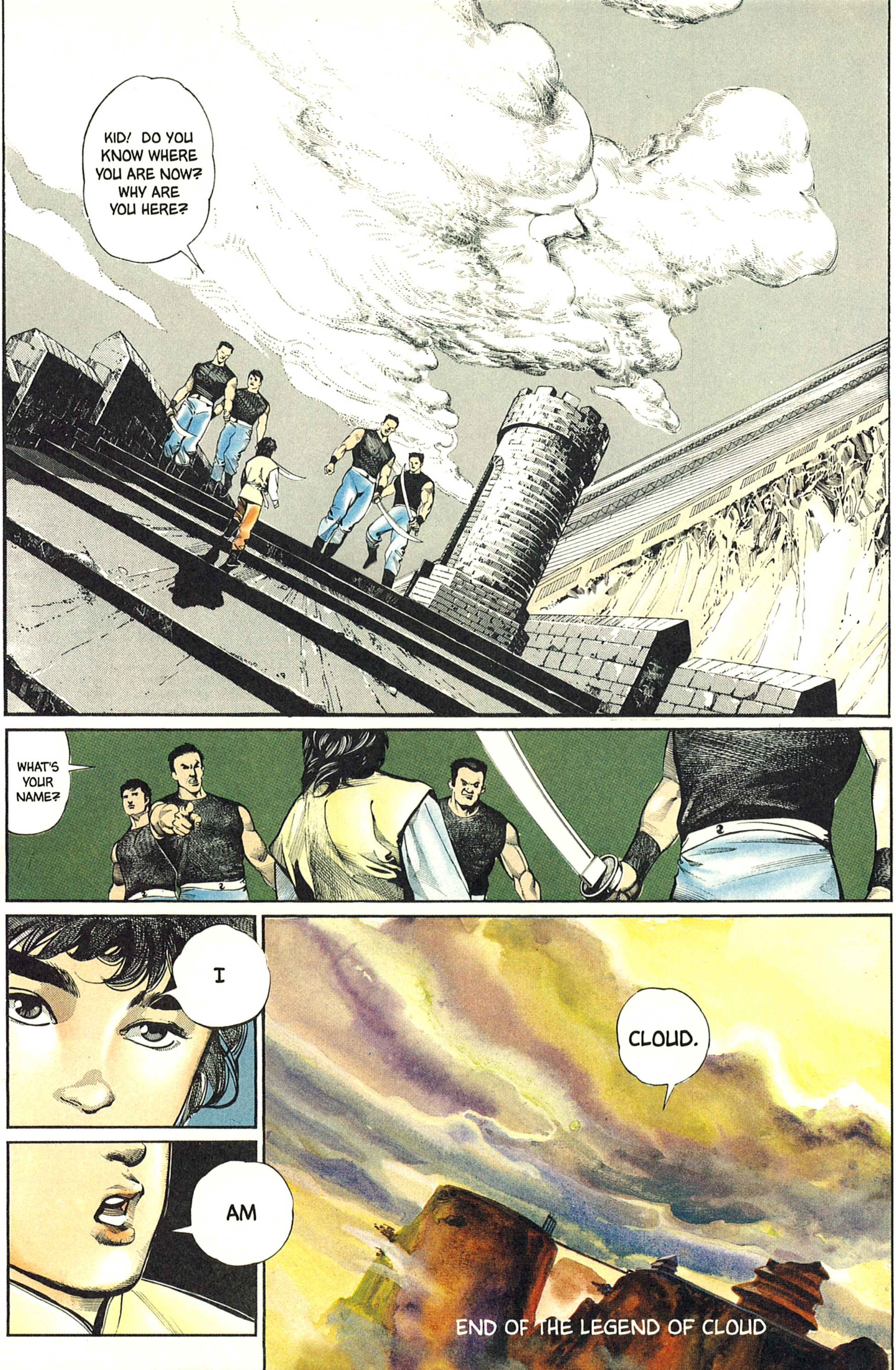

SON, I DON'T THINK... I CAN BE A GOOD TEACHER FOR YOU.
MASTER BUSHI IS A SUPERB MARTIAL ARTIST AND HE UNDERSTANDS THE RIGHT WAY OF HUMAN LIFE PERFECTLY.
HE'S ABSOLUTELY PERFECT FOR YOU!
JIN-JIE GETS ALONG WITH US. HE'S PRETTY SMART, AND A NICE GUY.
WHO'S MASTER BUSHI?
UNCLE KEPT QUIET. JIEN-CHEN WAS RELUCTANT TO ASK AGAIN.
MY FENCING SKILLS ARE POWERFUL; BUT THEY CANNOT RID THE EVIL FROM HUMAN MINDS....
WITH HIS KNOWLEDGE OF BUDDHISM, BUSHI SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET RID OF THE EVIL SPIRITS FROM JIN-JIE'S MIND.
I UNDER-STAND
HUM!


YOU KNOW I AM SMARTER THAN JIEN-CHEN. YOU DON'T WANT TO SEE ME BETTER THAN HIM IN THE FUTURE.
THAT'S WHY YOU DON'T WANT TO TAKE ME AS YOUR STUDENT.
I DON'T NEED YOUR MERCY. I'LL GO MY OWN WAY FROM NOW ON.
JIN-JIE, DON'T YOU GO AWAY.

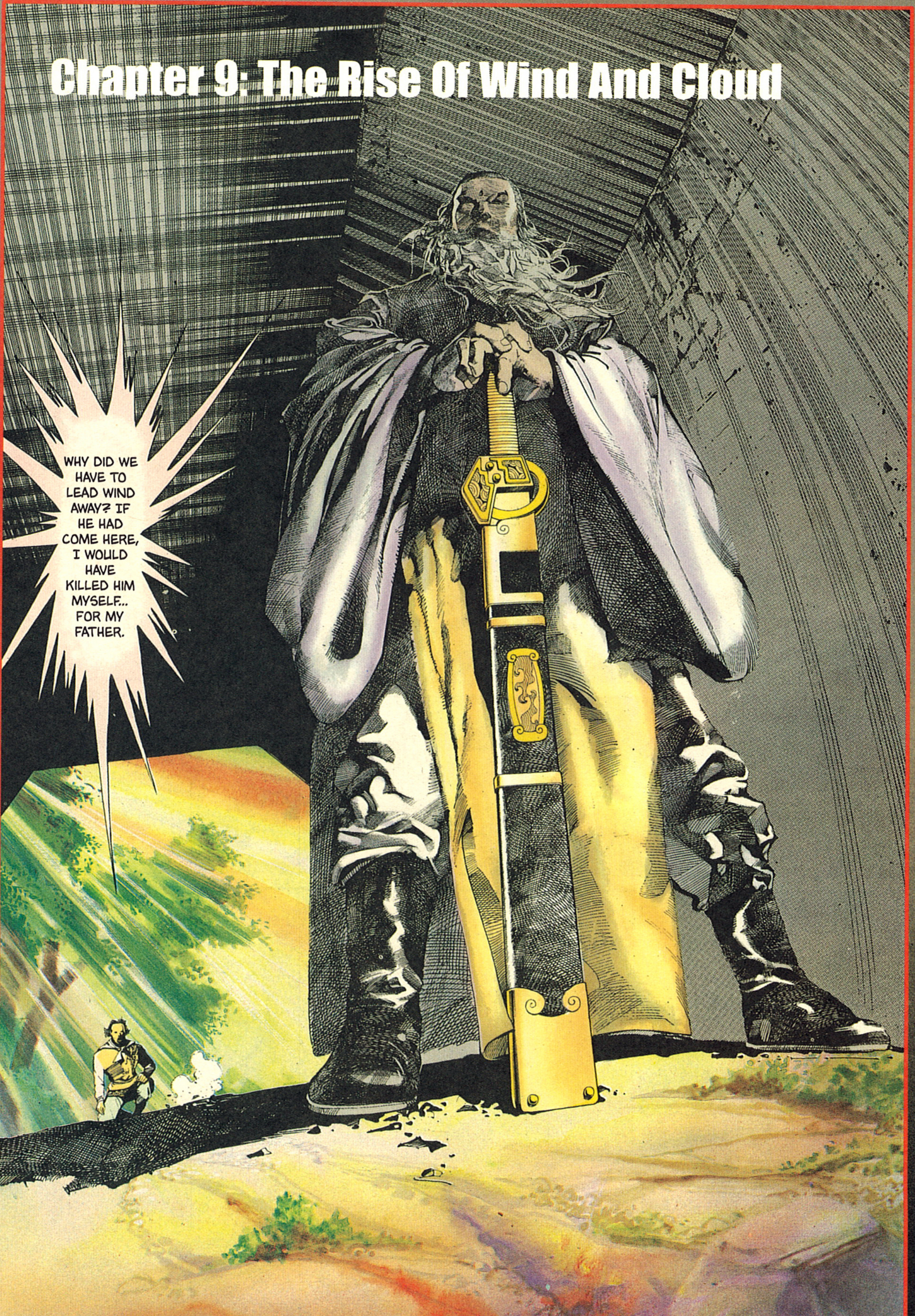

ACTUALLY, THE MASTER HAD GOOD INTENTIONS IN HANDING YOU OVER TO MASTER BUSHI...
DON'T PLAY DUMB. I KNOW WHAT HE HAS IN HIS MIND.
JIN-JIE, COME DOWN
I'VE MADE UP MY MIND. GET OUT OF MY WAY.
JIEN-CHEN ESCAPES JIN-JIE HO'S FINGER ATTACK EASILY.
YOU'RE SO GOOD. HAD YOU USED ALL YOUR SKILLS, I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DEFEAT YOU LAST NIGHT. WHY?
I'D LIKE TO SEE MY MASTER TAKE YOU AS HIS STUDENT.
OH!

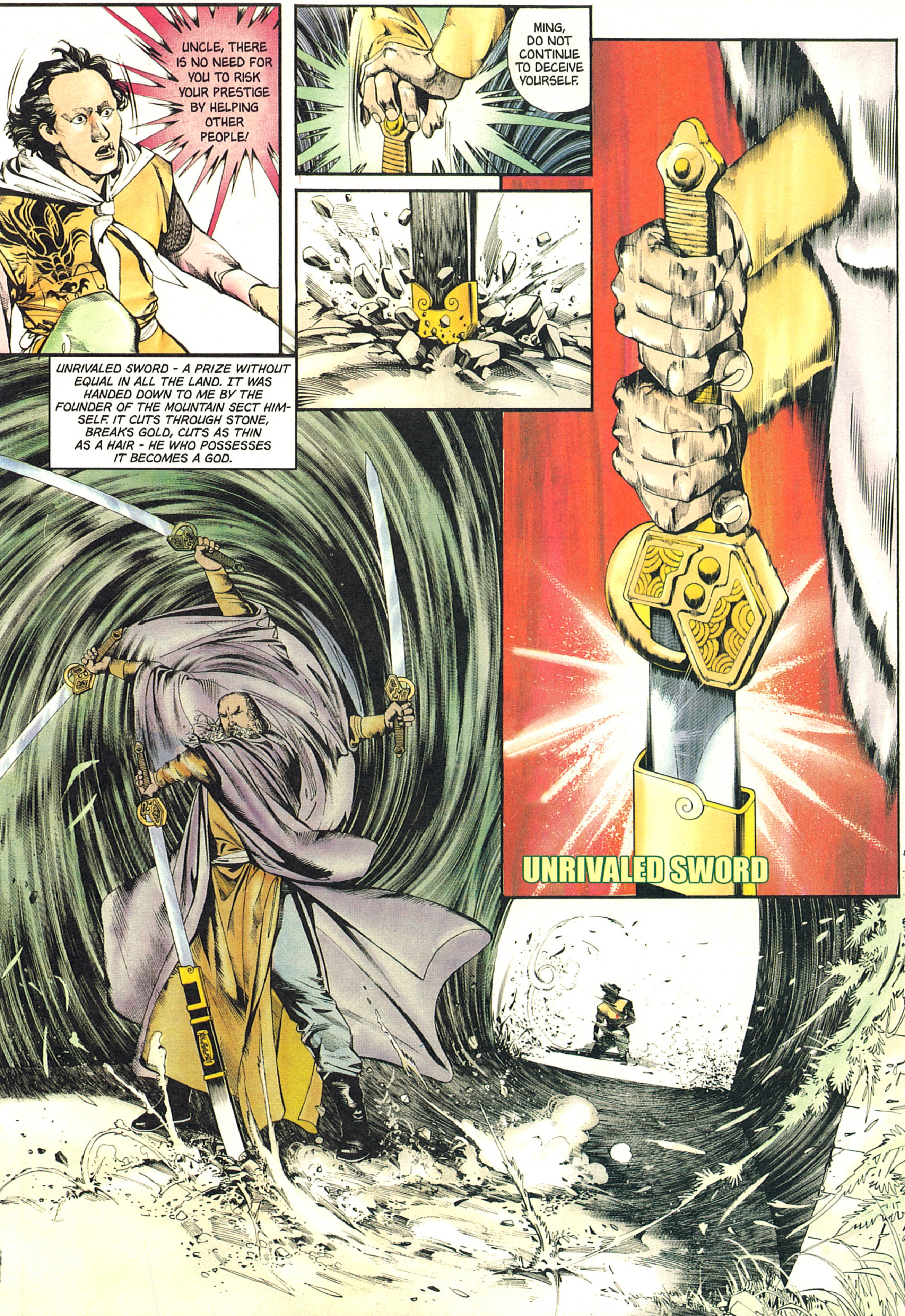

JIN-JIE, WHY DON'T YOU LET ME TALK TO MY MASTER AGAIN? MAYBE HE'S GOING TO CHANGE HIS MIND...
NO NEED, I DON'T NEED PITY.
YOU AND I ARE GOING DIFFERENT WAYS.
YOU HAVE A GOOD MASTER TO BRING YOU UP. I LOST MY MOTHER WHEN I WAS A KID. MY FAMILY MEMBERS NEVER TREATED ME LIKE A HUMAN BEING. THIS IS MY FATE.
ANYWAY, I REALLY APPRECIATE YOUR KINDNESS OVER THE PAST FEW DAYS...
SO LONG...
AH!

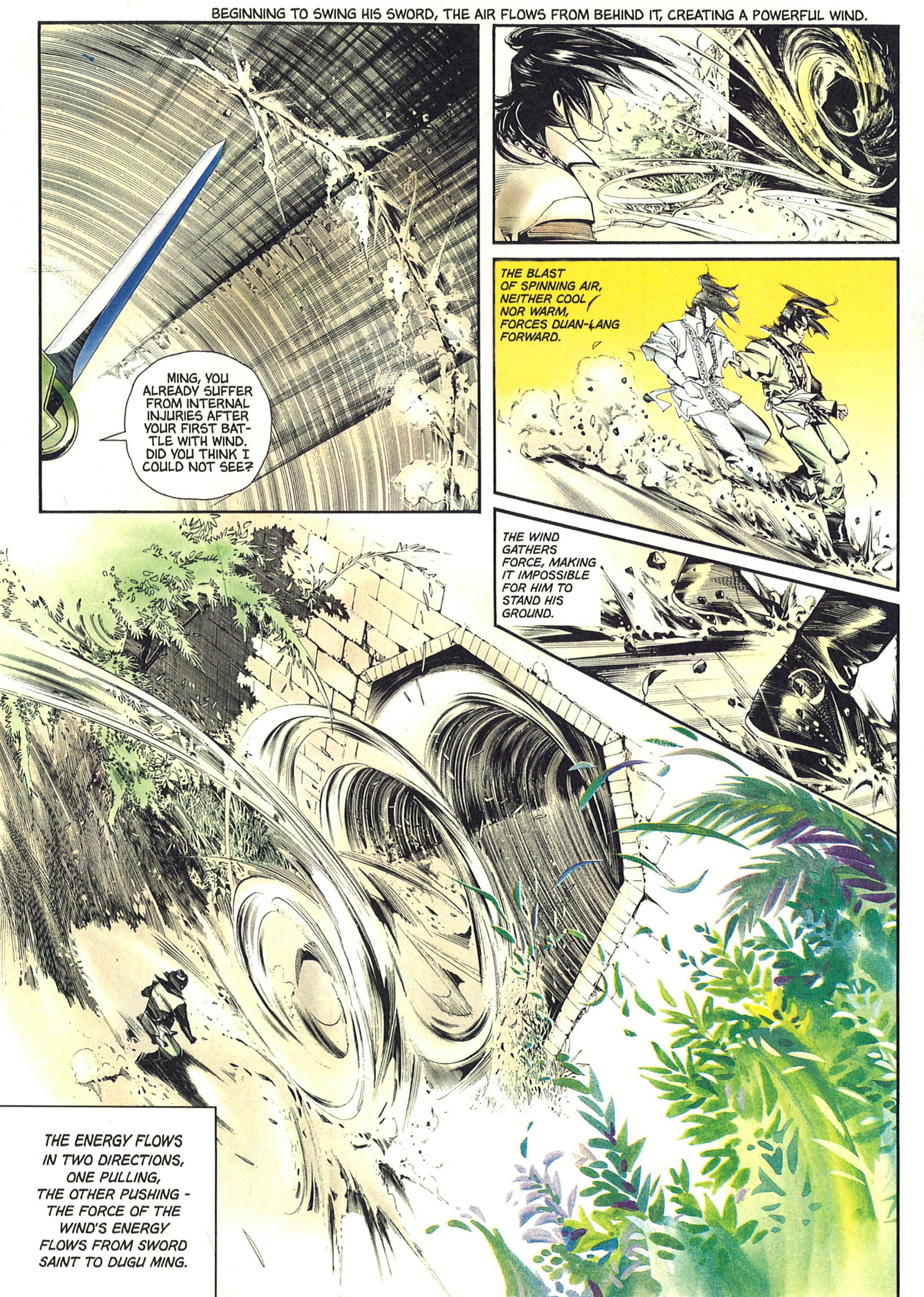

MASTER!
JIN-JIE INSISTED ON LEAVING. PLEASE TELL HIM TO COME BACK.
SON, AS LONG AS JIN-JIE COULD SURVIVE HIS FAMILY'S TRAGEDY, THERE IS NOTHING THAT CAN HOLD HIM BACK. JUST LET HIM GO!
IF NO ONE CAN HELP ME, I WILL GET MY REVENGE ALONE.

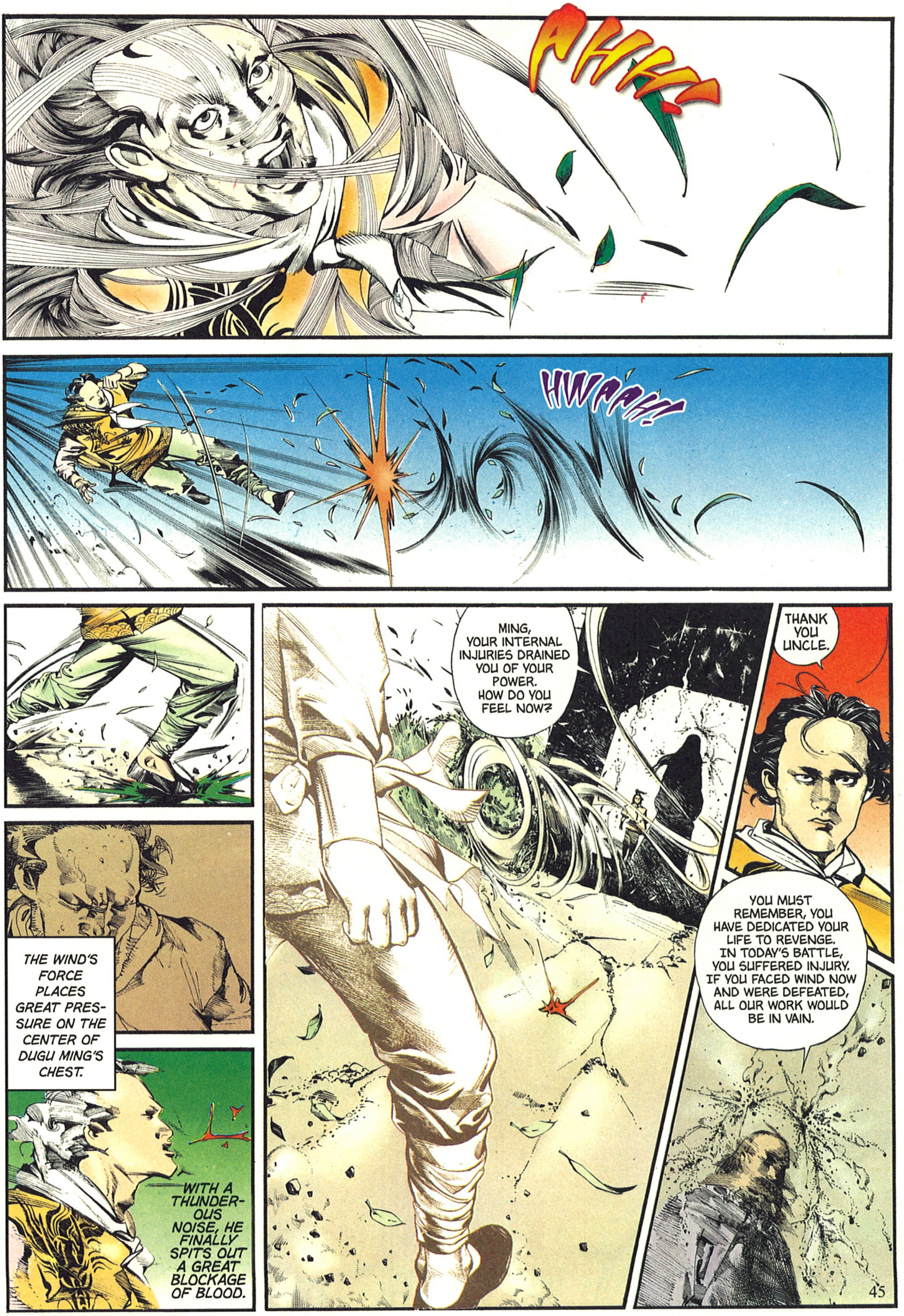

KID! DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOU ARE NOW? WHY ARE YOU HERE?
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
I
AM
CLOUD.
END OF THE LEGEND OF CLOUD

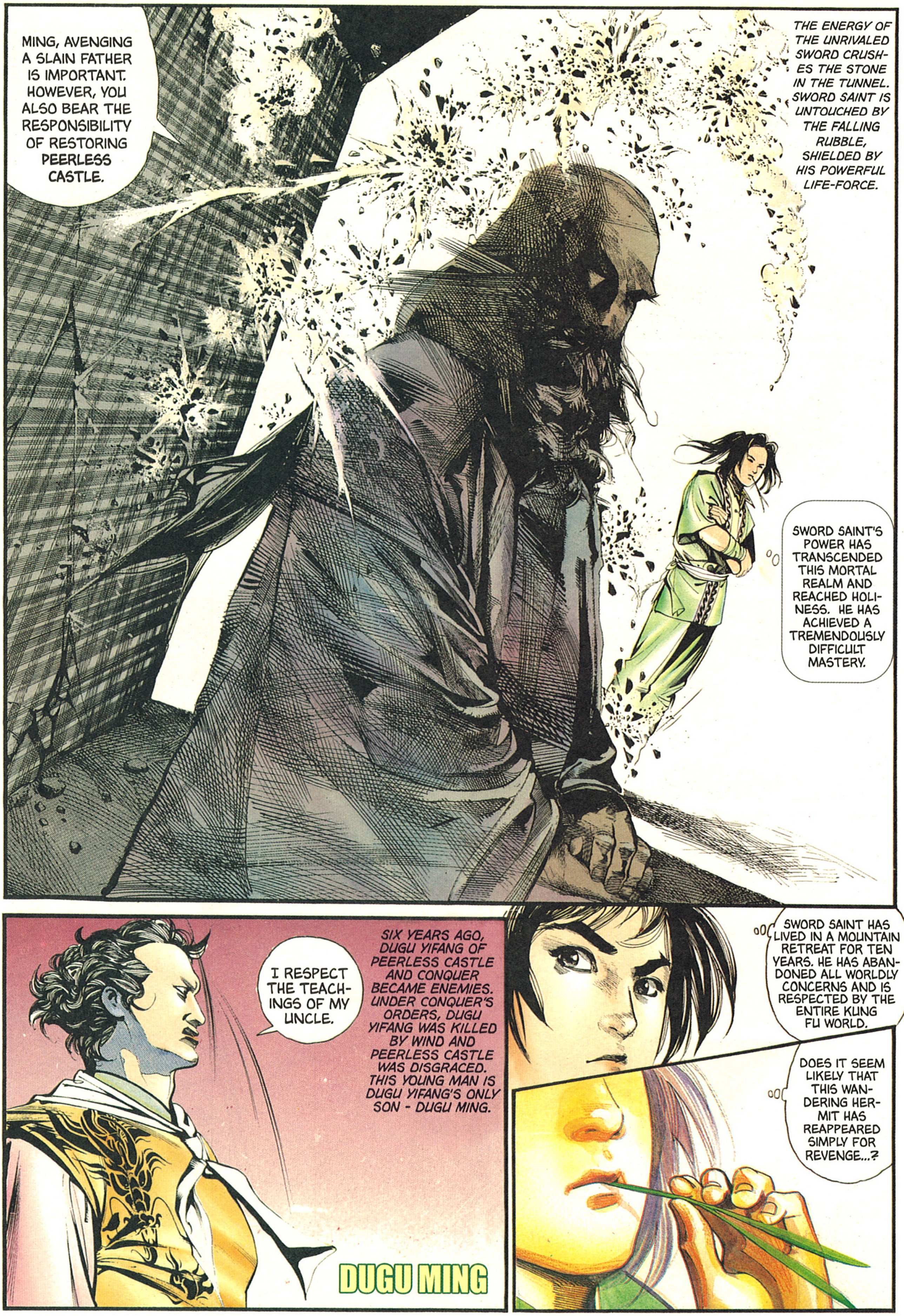
# Chapter 9: The Rise Of Wind And Cloud

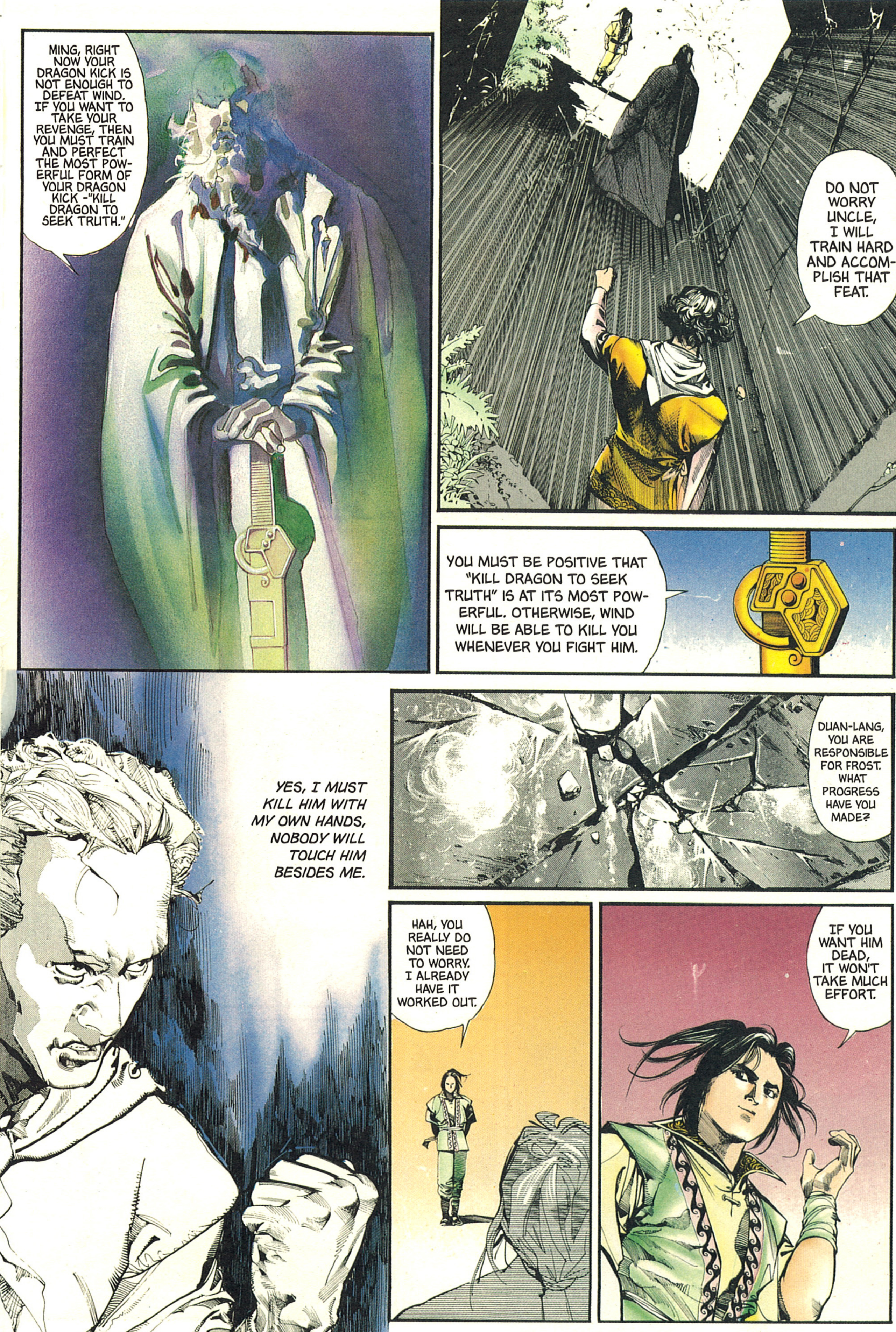

WHY DID WE HAVE TO LEAD WIND AWAY? IF HE HAD COME HERE, I WOULD HAVE KILLED HIM MYSELF... FOR MY FATHER.

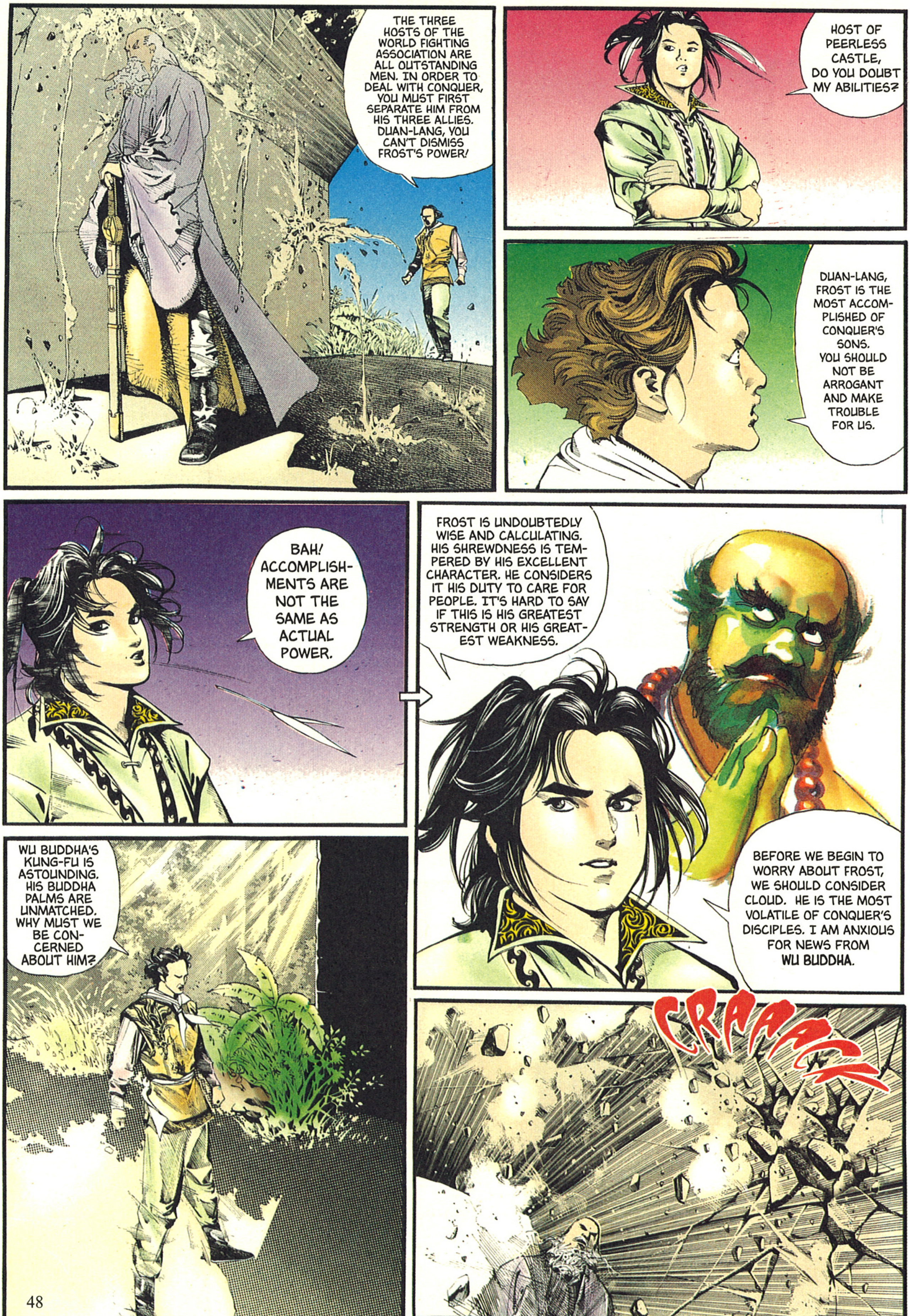

UNCLE, THERE IS NO NEED FOR YOU TO RISK YOUR PRESTIGE BY HELPING OTHER PEOPLE!
MING, DO NOT CONTINUE TO DECEIVE YOURSELF.
UNRIVALED SWORD - A PRIZE WITHOUT EQUAL IN ALL THE LAND. IT WAS HANDED DOWN TO ME BY THE FOUNDER OF THE MOUNTAIN SECT HIMSELF. IT CUTS THROUGH STONE, BREAKS GOLD, CUTS AS THIN AS A HAIR - HE WHO POSSESSES IT BECOMES A GOD.
UNRIVALED SWORD

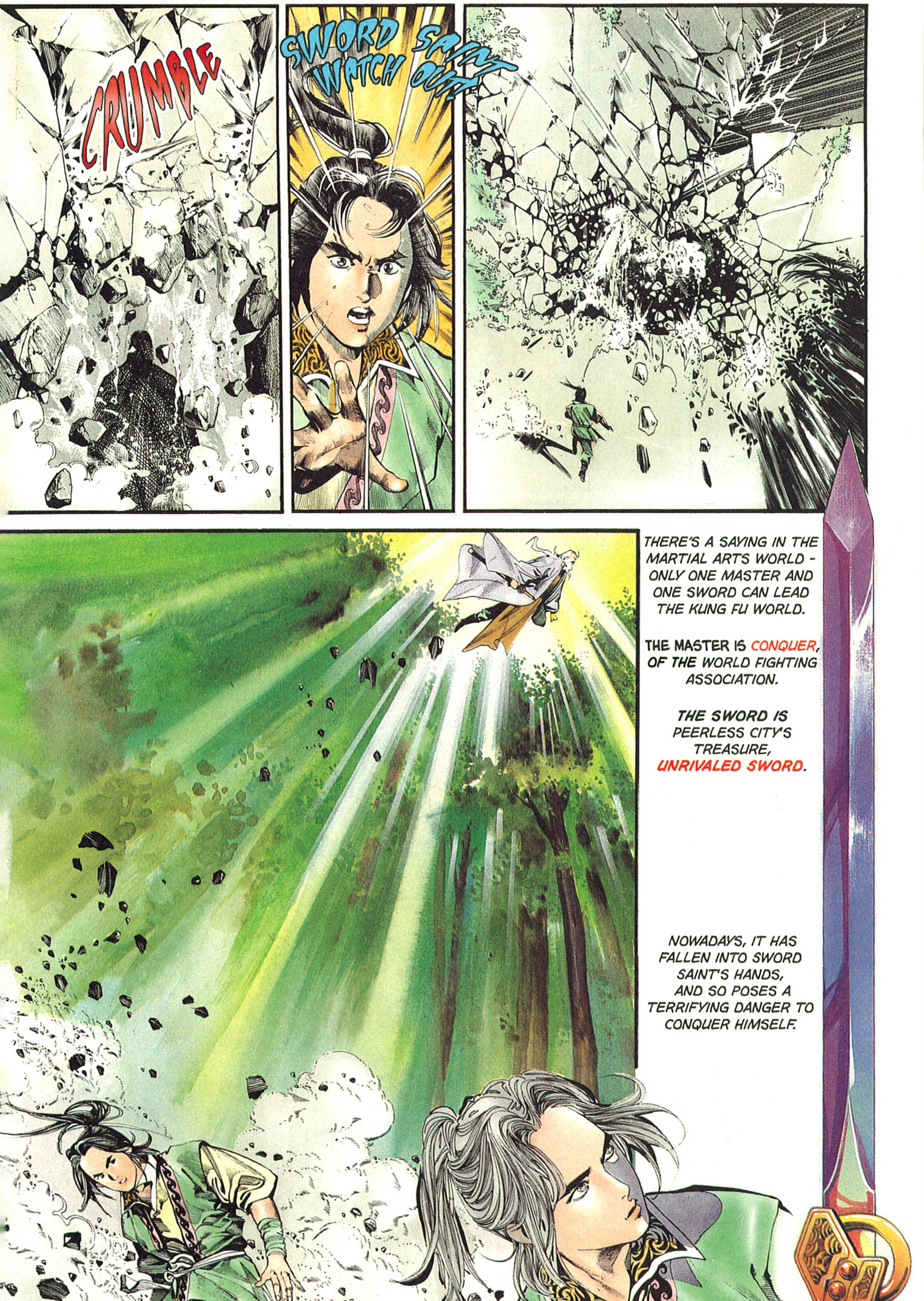

BEGINNING TO SWING HIS SWORD, THE AIR FLOWS FROM BEHIND IT, CREATING A POWERFUL WIND.
MING, YOU ALREADY SUFFER FROM INTERNAL INJURIES AFTER YOUR FIRST BATTLE WITH WIND. DID YOU THINK I COULD NOT SEE?
THE BLAST OF SPINNING AIR, NEITHER COOL NOR WARM, FORCES DUAN-LANG FORWARD.
THE WIND GATHERS FORCE, MAKING IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO STAND HIS GROUND.
THE ENERGY FLOWS IN TWO DIRECTIONS, ONE PULLING, THE OTHER PUSHING - THE FORCE OF THE WIND'S ENERGY FLOWS FROM SWORD SAINT TO DUGU MING.

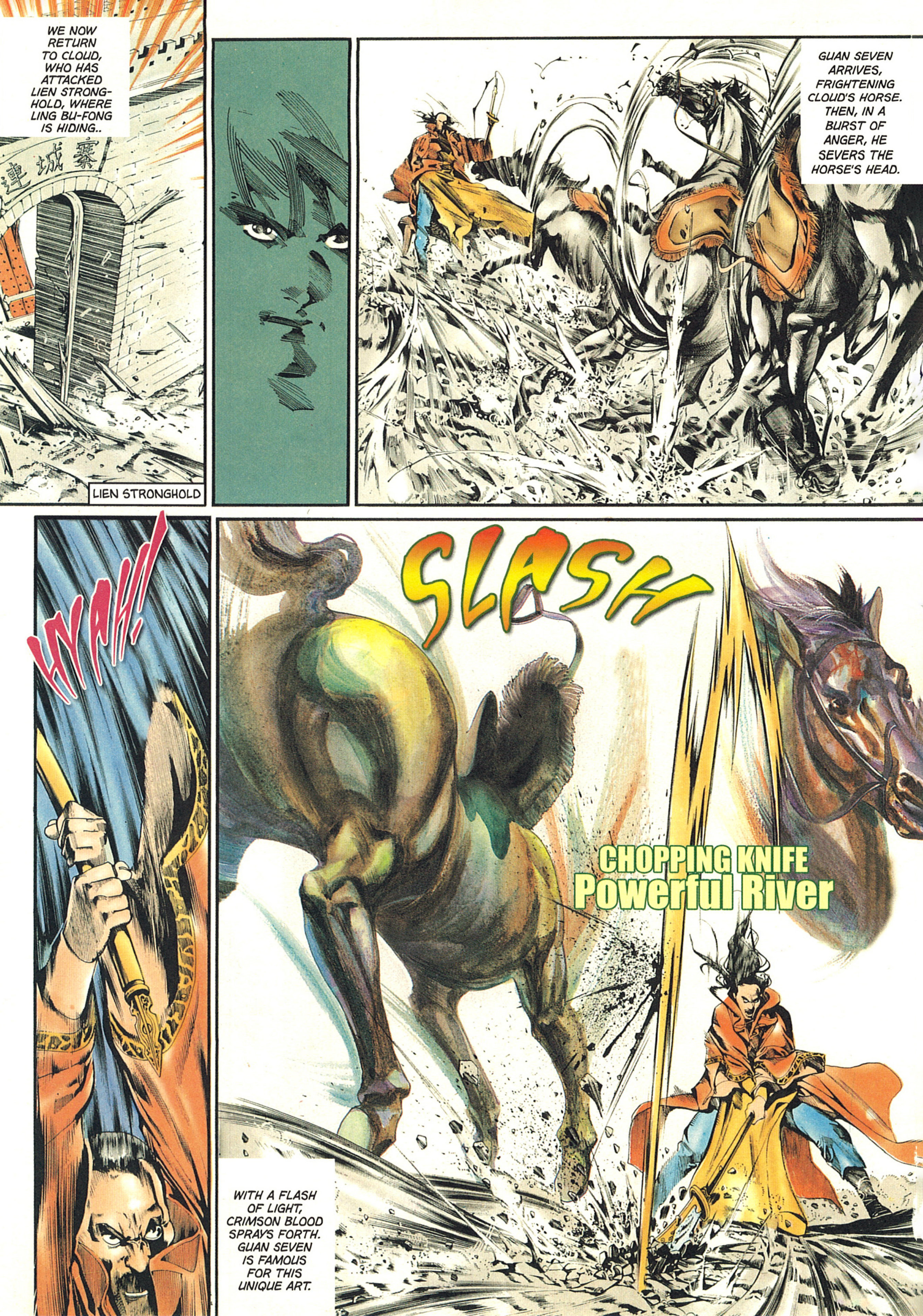

PHH!
HWAAH!
THE WIND'S FORCE PLACES GREAT PRESSURE ON THE CENTER OF DUGU MING'S CHEST.
WITH A THUNDEROUS NOISE, HE FINALLY SPITS OUT A GREAT BLOCKAGE OF BLOOD.
MING, YOUR INTERNAL INJURIES DRAINED YOU OF YOUR POWER. HOW DO YOU FEEL NOW?
THANK YOU UNCLE.
YOU MUST REMEMBER, YOU HAVE DEDICATED YOUR LIFE TO REVENGE. IN TODAY'S BATTLE, YOU SUFFERED INJURY. IF YOU FACED WIND NOW AND WERE DEFEATED, ALL OUR WORK WOULD BE IN VAIN.


MING, AVENGING A SLAIN FATHER IS IMPORTANT. HOWEVER, YOU ALSO BEAR THE RESPONSIBILITY OF RESTORING PEERLESS CASTLE.
THE ENERGY OF THE UNRIVALED SWORD CRUSHES THE STONE IN THE TUNNEL. SWORD SAINT IS UNTOUCHED BY THE FALLING RUBBLE, SHIELDED BY HIS POWERFUL LIFE-FORCE.
SWORD SAINT'S POWER HAS TRANSCENDED THIS MORTAL REALM AND REACHED HOLINESS. HE HAS ACHIEVED A TREMENDOUSLY DIFFICULT MASTERY.
I RESPECT THE TEACHINGS OF MY UNCLE.
SIX YEARS AGO, DUGU YIFANG OF PEERLESS CASTLE AND CONQUER BECAME ENEMIES. UNDER CONQUER'S ORDERS, DUGU YIFANG WAS KILLED BY WIND AND PEERLESS CASTLE WAS DISGRACED. THIS YOUNG MAN IS DUGU YIFANG'S ONLY SON - DUGU MING.
DUGU MING
SWORD SAINT HAS LIVED IN A MOUNTAIN RETREAT FOR TEN YEARS. HE HAS ABANDONED ALL WORLDLY CONCERNS AND IS RESPECTED BY THE ENTIRE KUNG FU WORLD.
DOES IT SEEM LIKELY THAT THIS WANDERING HERMIT HAS REAPPEARED SIMPLY FOR REVENGE...?


MING, RIGHT NOW YOUR DRAGON KICK IS NOT ENOUGH TO DEFEAT WIND. IF YOU WANT TO TAKE YOUR REVENGE, THEN YOU MUST TRAIN AND PERFECT THE MOST POWERFUL FORM OF YOUR DRAGON KICK -"KILL DRAGON TO SEEK TRUTH."
DO NOT WORRY UNCLE, I WILL TRAIN HARD AND ACCOMPLISH THAT FEAT.
YOU MUST BE POSITIVE THAT "KILL DRAGON TO SEEK TRUTH" IS AT ITS MOST POWERFUL. OTHERWISE, WIND WILL BE ABLE TO KILL YOU WHENEVER YOU FIGHT HIM.
YES, I MUST KILL HIM WITH MY OWN HANDS, NOBODY WILL TOUCH HIM BESIDES ME.
DUAN-LANG, YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR FROST. WHAT PROGRESS HAVE YOU MADE?
HAH, YOU REALLY DO NOT NEED TO WORRY. I ALREADY HAVE IT WORKED OUT.
IF YOU WANT HIM DEAD, IT WON'T TAKE MUCH EFFORT.


THE THREE HOSTS OF THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION ARE ALL OUTSTANDING MEN. IN ORDER TO DEAL WITH CONQUER, YOU MUST FIRST SEPARATE HIM FROM HIS THREE ALLIES. DUAN-LANG, YOU CAN'T DISMISS FROST'S POWER!
HOST OF PEERLESS CASTLE, DO YOU DOUBT MY ABILITIES?
DUAN-LANG, FROST IS THE MOST ACCOMPLISHED OF CONQUER'S SONS. YOU SHOULD NOT BE ARROGANT AND MAKE TROUBLE FOR US.
BAH! ACCOMPLISHMENTS ARE NOT THE SAME AS ACTUAL POWER.
FROST IS UNDOUBTEDLY WISE AND CALCULATING. HIS SHREWDNESS IS TEMPERED BY HIS EXCELLENT CHARACTER. HE CONSIDERS IT HIS DUTY TO CARE FOR PEOPLE. IT'S HARD TO SAY IF THIS IS HIS GREATEST STRENGTH OR HIS GREATEST WEAKNESS.
BEFORE WE BEGIN TO WORRY ABOUT FROST, WE SHOULD CONSIDER CLOUD. HE IS THE MOST VOLATILE OF CONQUER'S DISCIPLES. I AM ANXIOUS FOR NEWS FROM WU BUDDHA.
WU BUDDHA'S KUNG-FU IS ASTOUNDING. HIS BUDDHA PALMS ARE UNMATCHED. WHY MUST WE BE CONCERNED ABOUT HIM?
CRAAACK


CRUMBLE
SWORD SAINT WATCH OUT!
THERE'S A SAYING IN THE MARTIAL ARTS WORLD - ONLY ONE MASTER AND ONE SWORD CAN LEAD THE KUNG FU WORLD.
THE MASTER IS CONQUER, OF THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION.
THE SWORD IS PEERLESS CITY'S TREASURE, UNRIVALED SWORD.
NOWADAYS, IT HAS FALLEN INTO SWORD SAINT'S HANDS, AND SO POSES A TERRIFYING DANGER TO CONQUER HIMSELF.



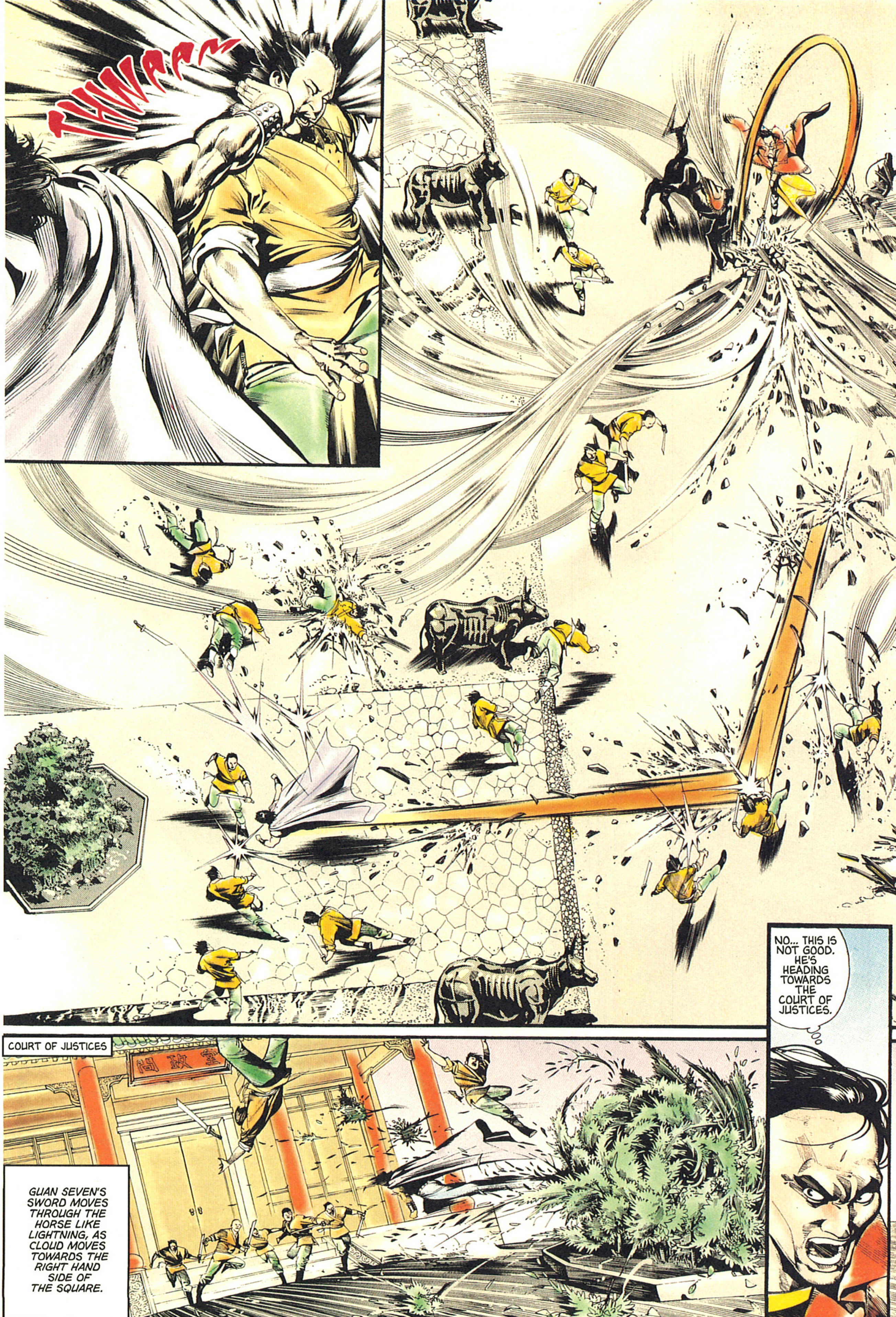
WE NOW RETURN TO CLOUD, WHO HAS ATTACKED LIEN STRONGHOLD, WHERE LING BU-FONG IS HIDING..

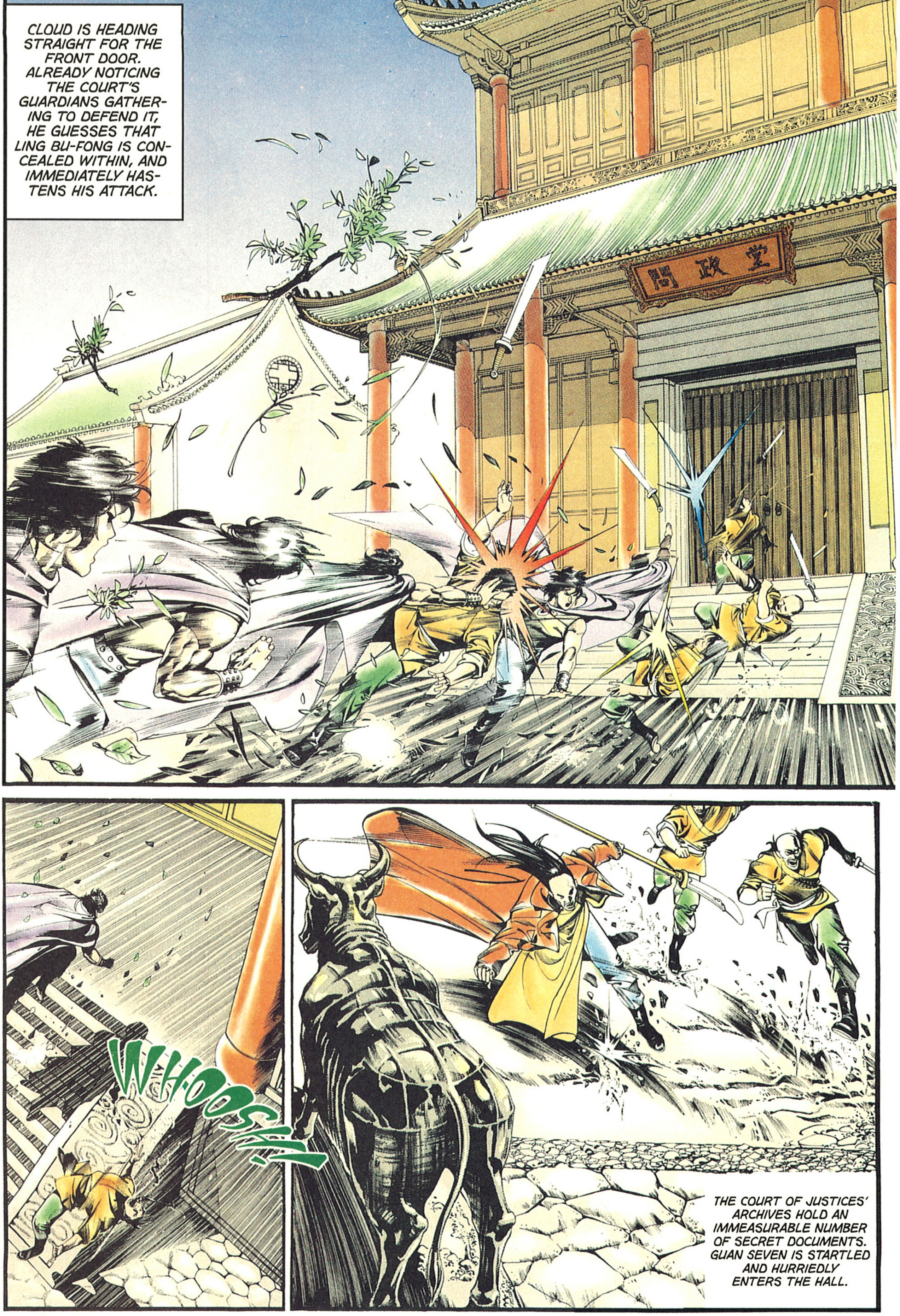
LIEN STRONGHOLD

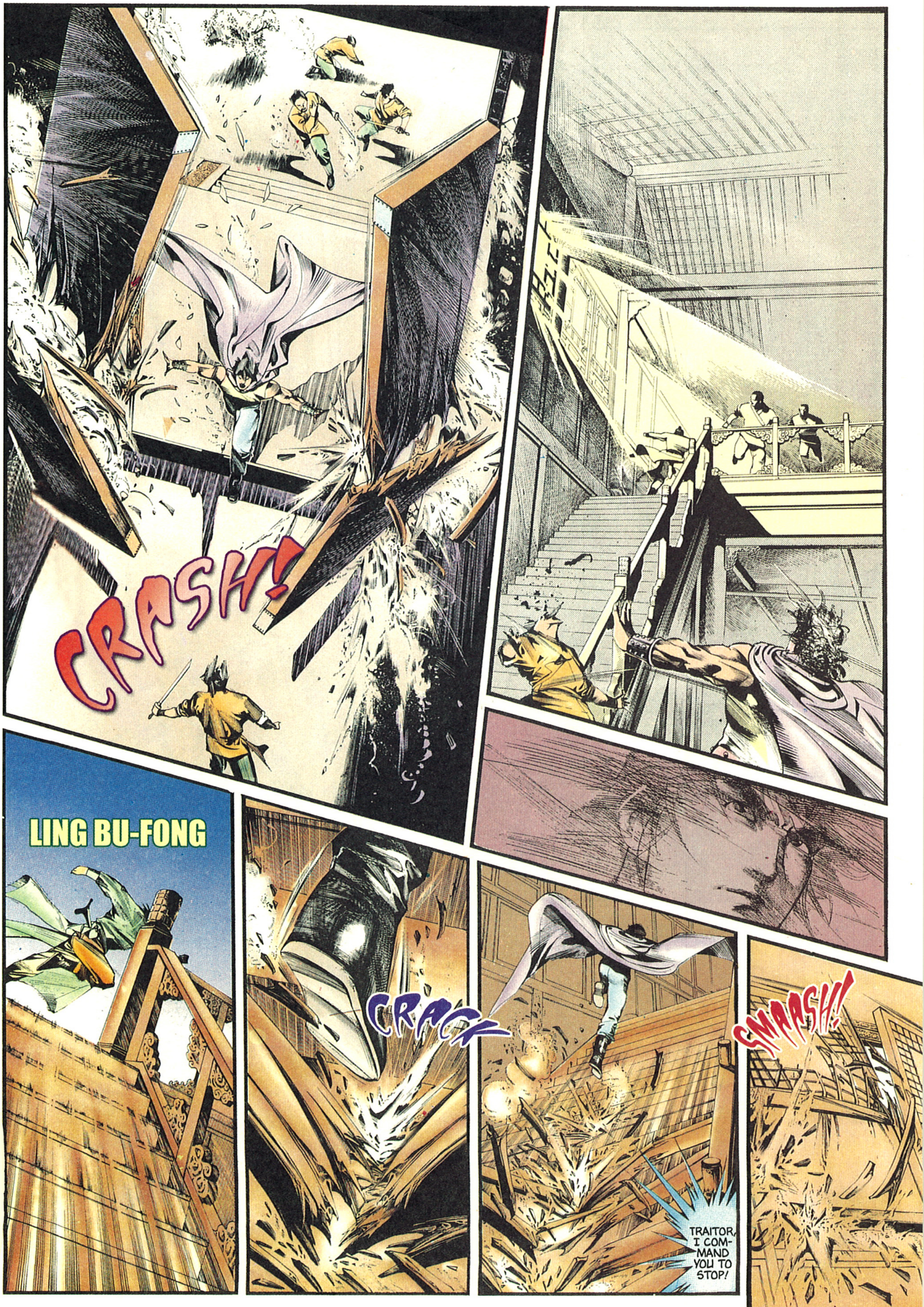
GUAN SEVEN ARRIVES, FRIGHTENING CLOUD'S HORSE. THEN, IN A BURST OF ANGER, HE SEVERS THE HORSE'S HEAD.

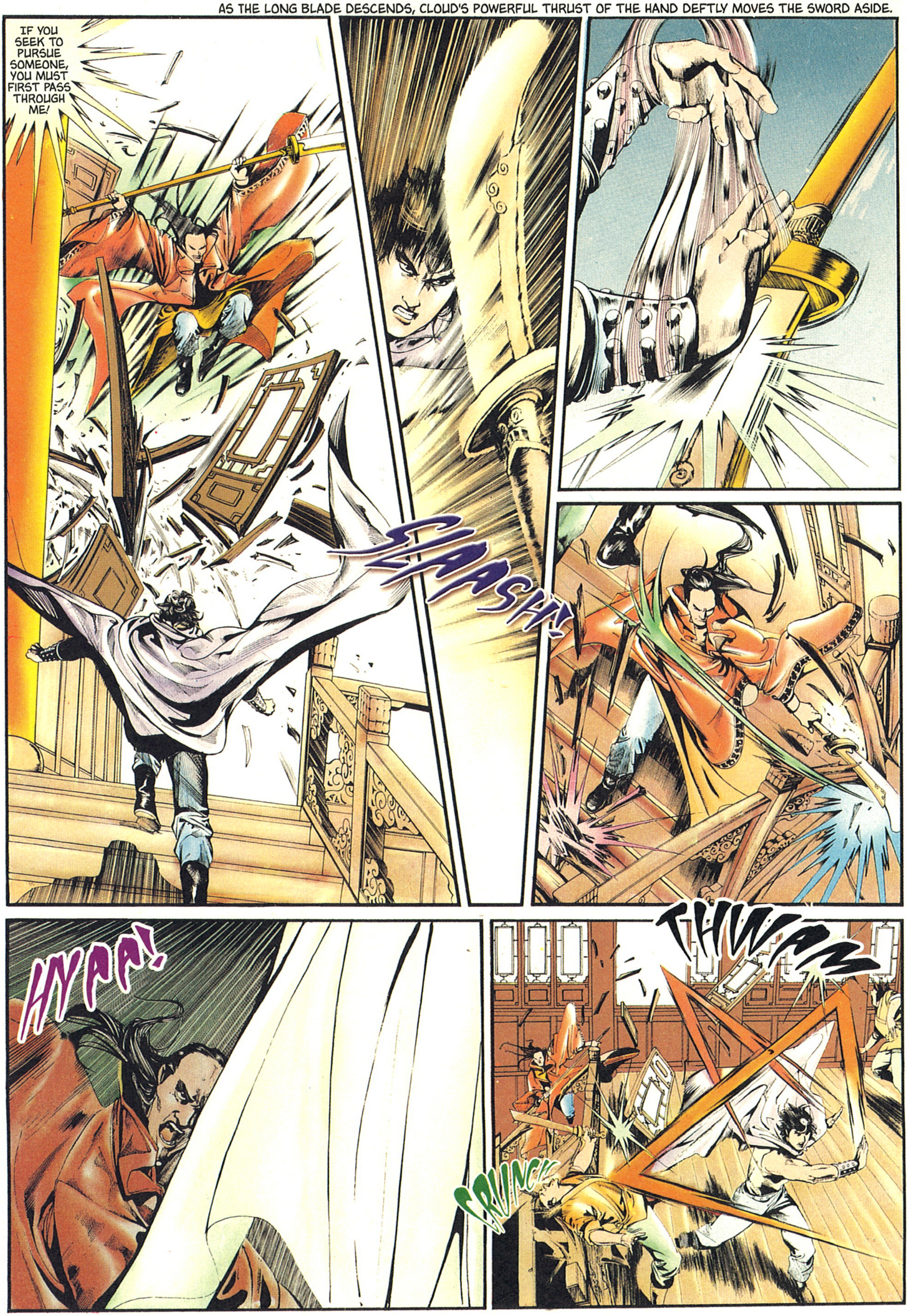
WITH A FLASH OF LIGHT, CRIMSON BLOOD SPRAYS FORTH. GUAN SEVEN IS FAMOUS FOR THIS UNIQUE ART.

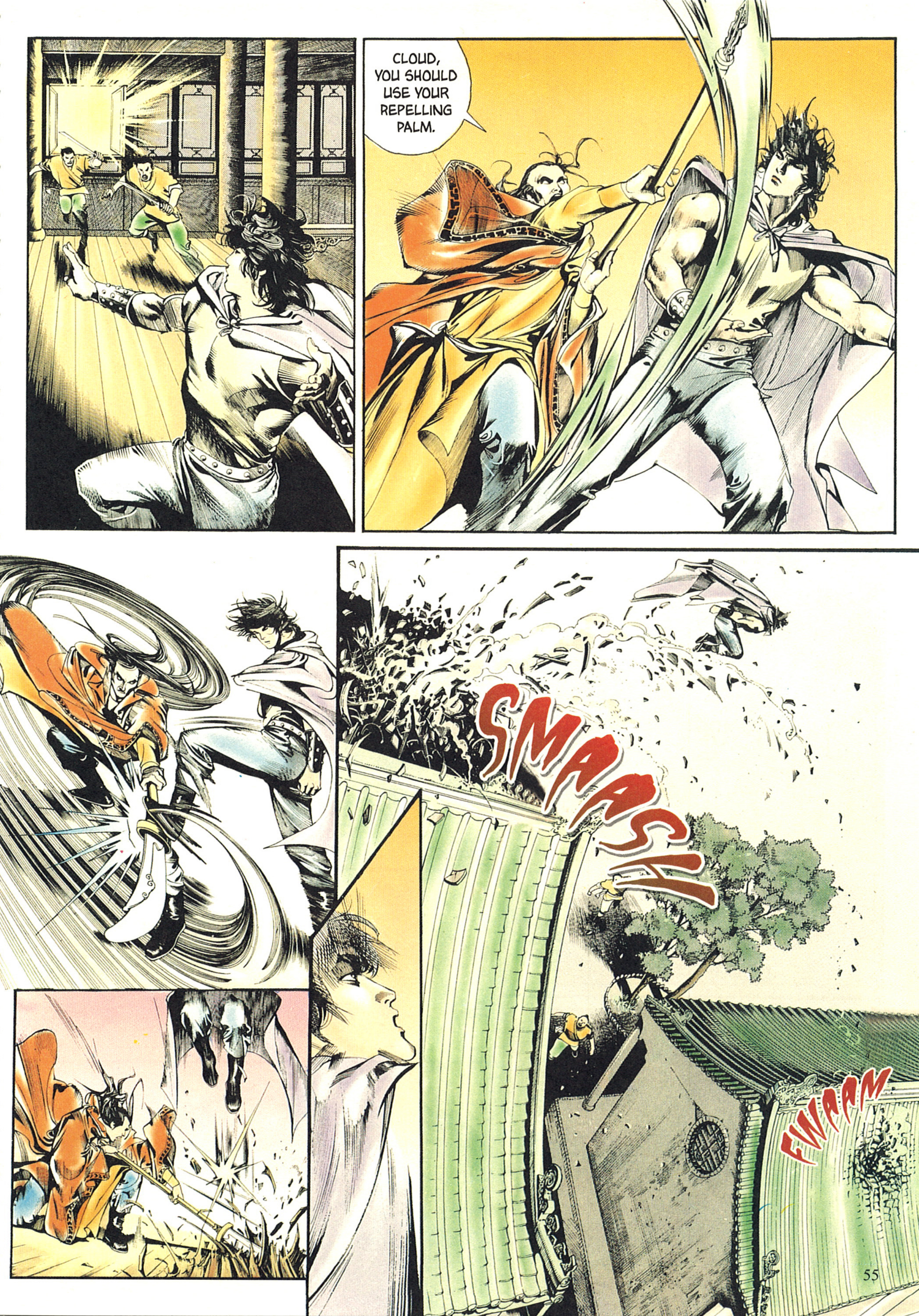
連城寨
HYAH!!
SLASH
CHOPPING KNIFE
Powerful River

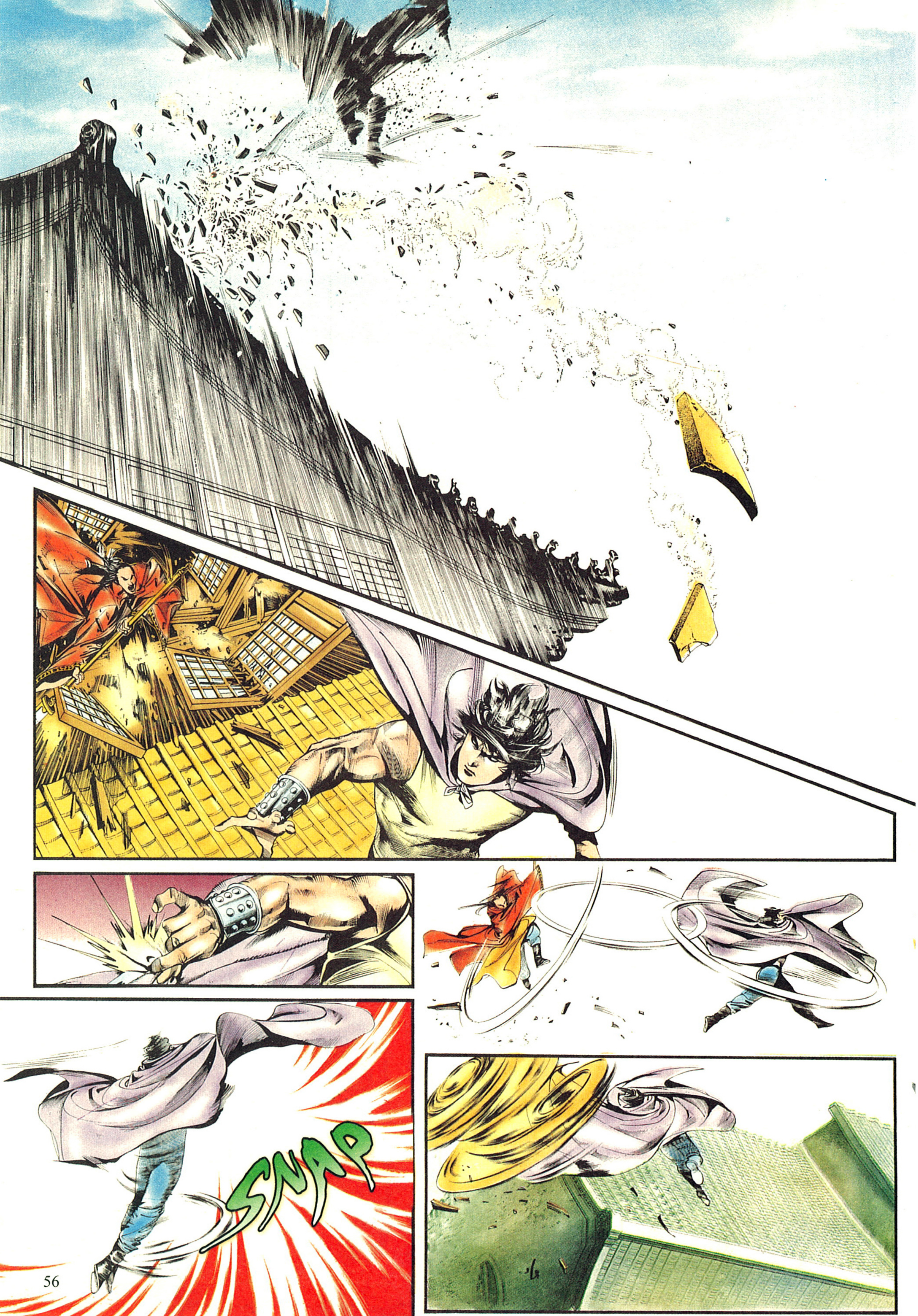

THWAAM
NO... THIS IS NOT GOOD. HE'S HEADING TOWARDS THE COURT OF JUSTICES.
COURT OF JUSTICES
GUAN SEVEN'S SWORD MOVES THROUGH THE HORSE LIKE LIGHTNING, AS CLOUD MOVES TOWARDS THE RIGHT HAND SIDE OF THE SQUARE.

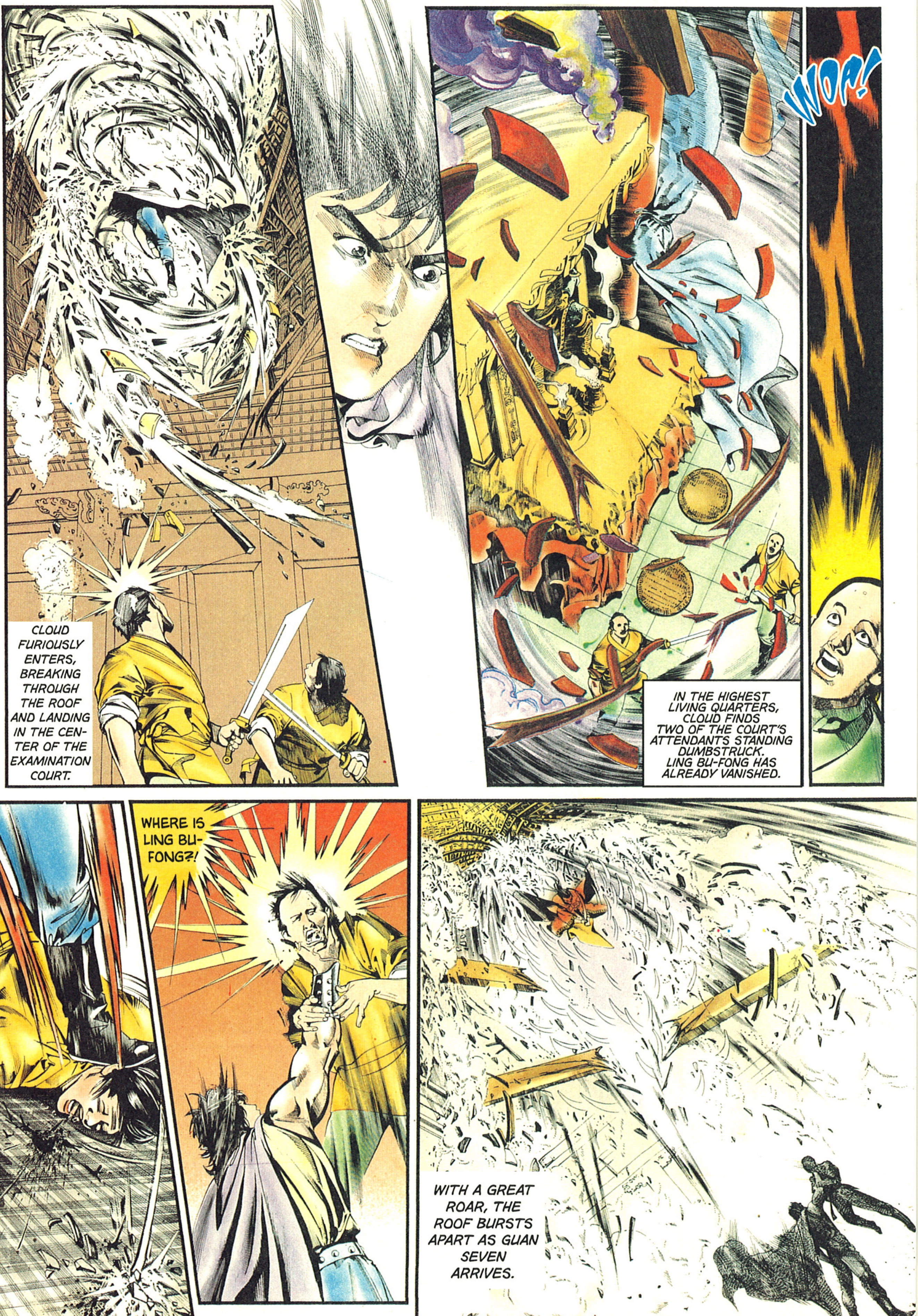

CLOUD IS HEADING STRAIGHT FOR THE FRONT DOOR. ALREADY NOTICING THE COURT'S GUARDIANS GATHERING TO DEFEND IT, HE GUESSES THAT LING BU-FONG IS CONCEALED WITHIN, AND IMMEDIATELY HASTENS HIS ATTACK.
WHOOSH!!
THE COURT OF JUSTICES' ARCHIVES HOLD AN IMMEASURABLE NUMBER OF SECRET DOCUMENTS. GUAN SEVEN IS STARTLED AND HURRIEDLY ENTERS THE HALL.

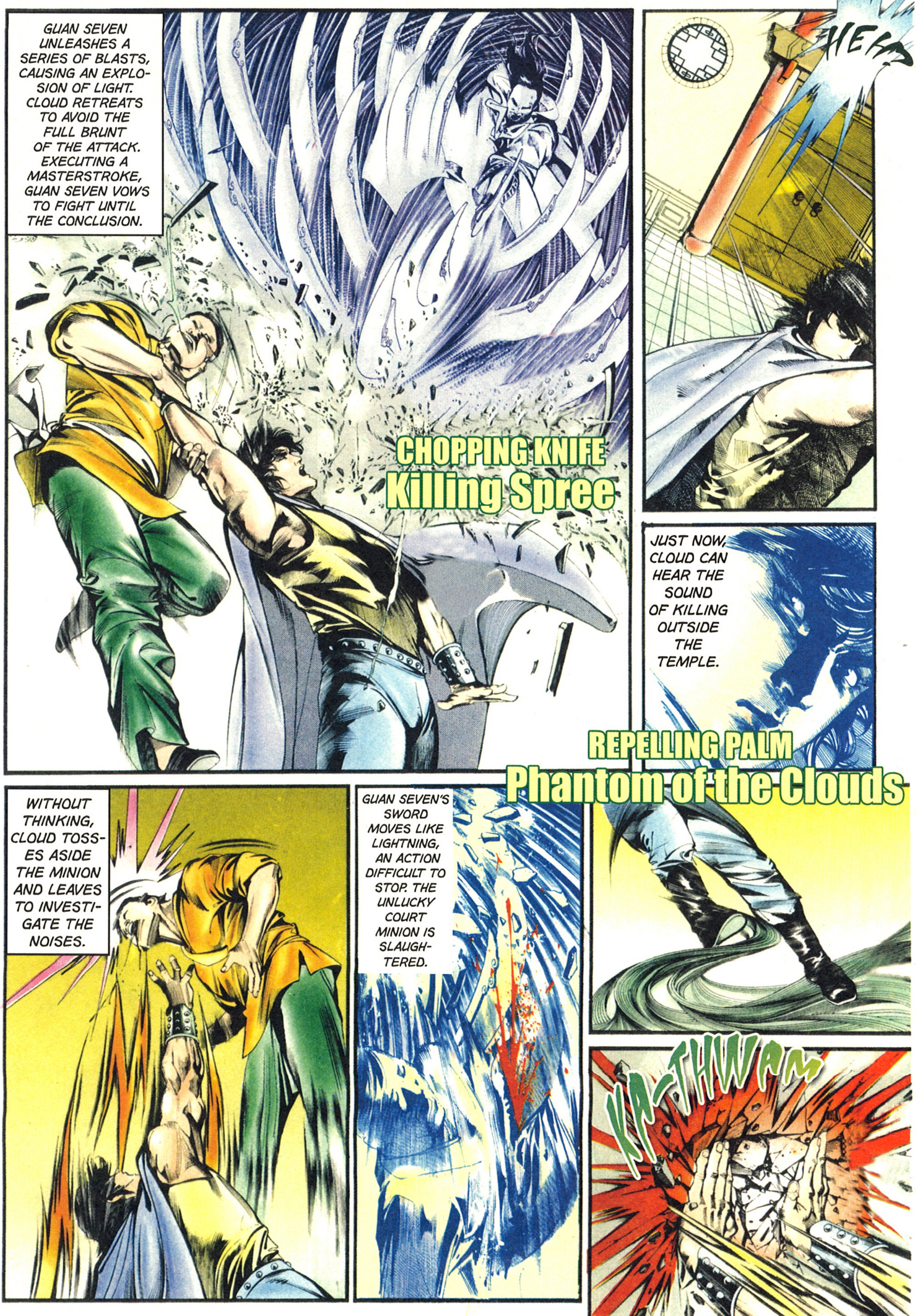

CRASH!
LING BU-FONG
CRACK
SMAASH!
TRAITOR, I COMMAND YOU TO STOP!

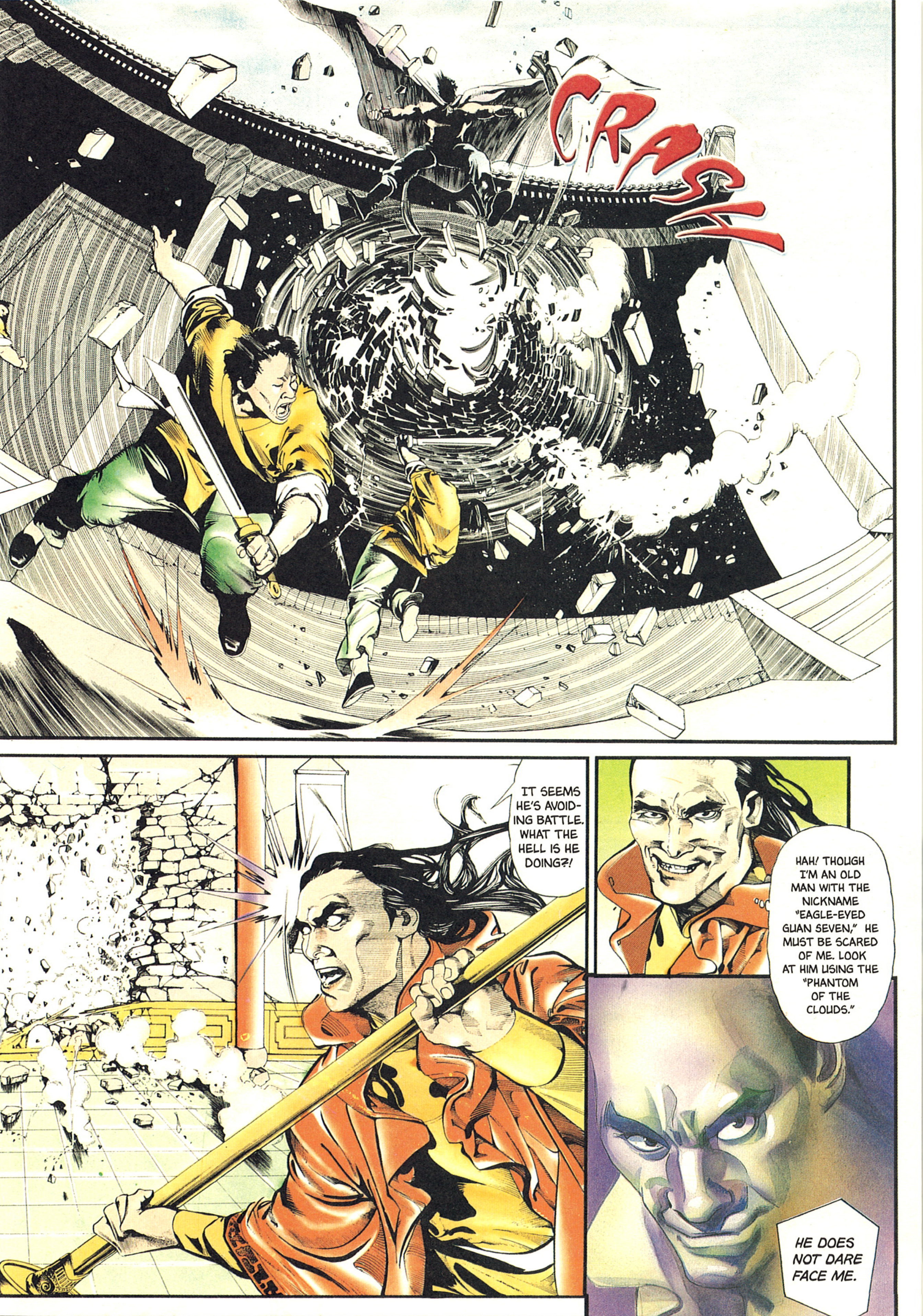

AS THE LONG BLADE DESCENDS, CLOUD'S POWERFUL THRUST OF THE HAND DEFTLY MOVES THE SWORD ASIDE.
IF YOU SEEK TO PURSUE SOMEONE, YOU MUST FIRST PASS THROUGH ME!
SLAASH!
HYAA!
THWAM
CRUNCH!

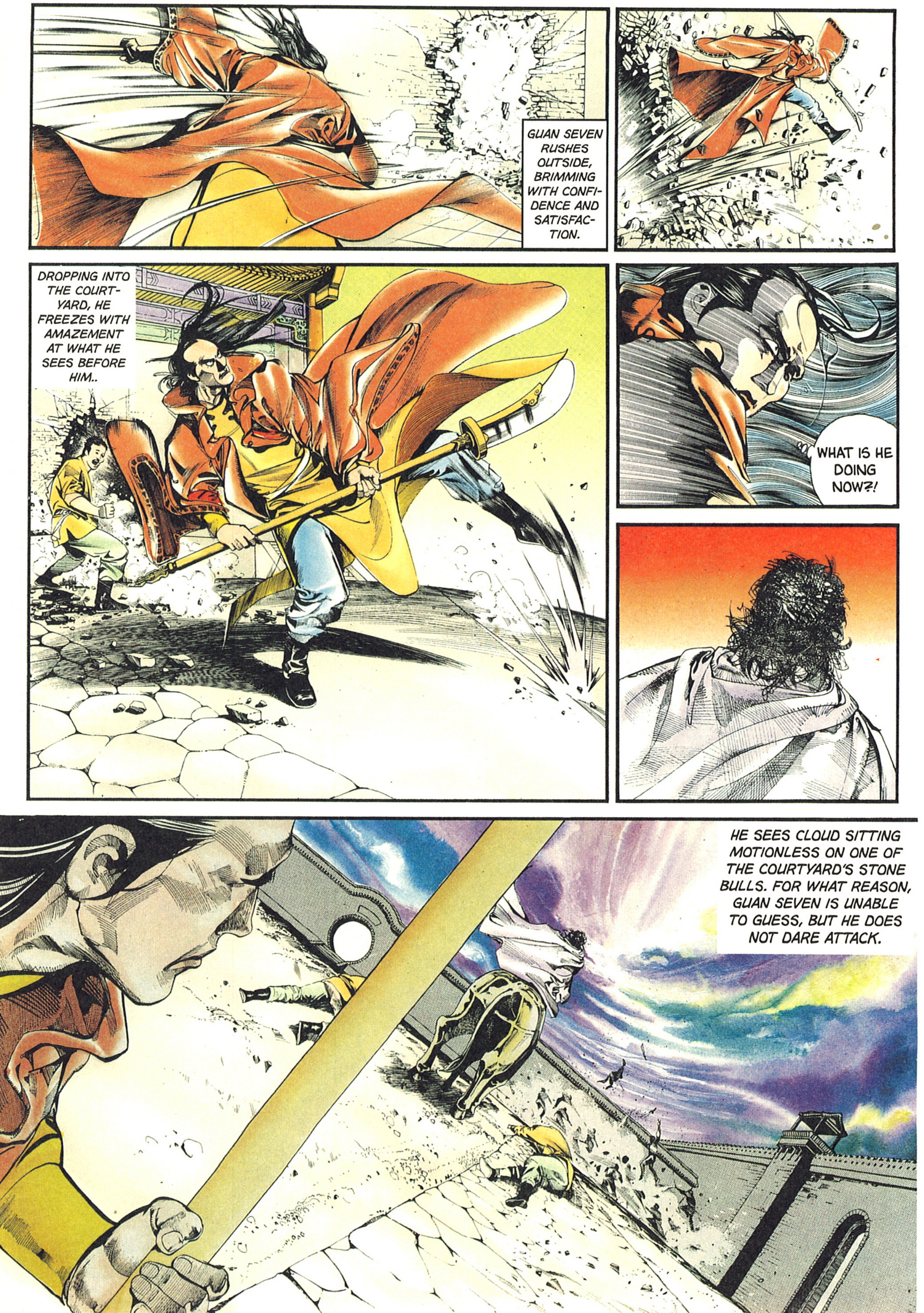

CLOUD,
YOU SHOULD
USE YOUR
REPELLING
PALM.
SMASH
FWAAM

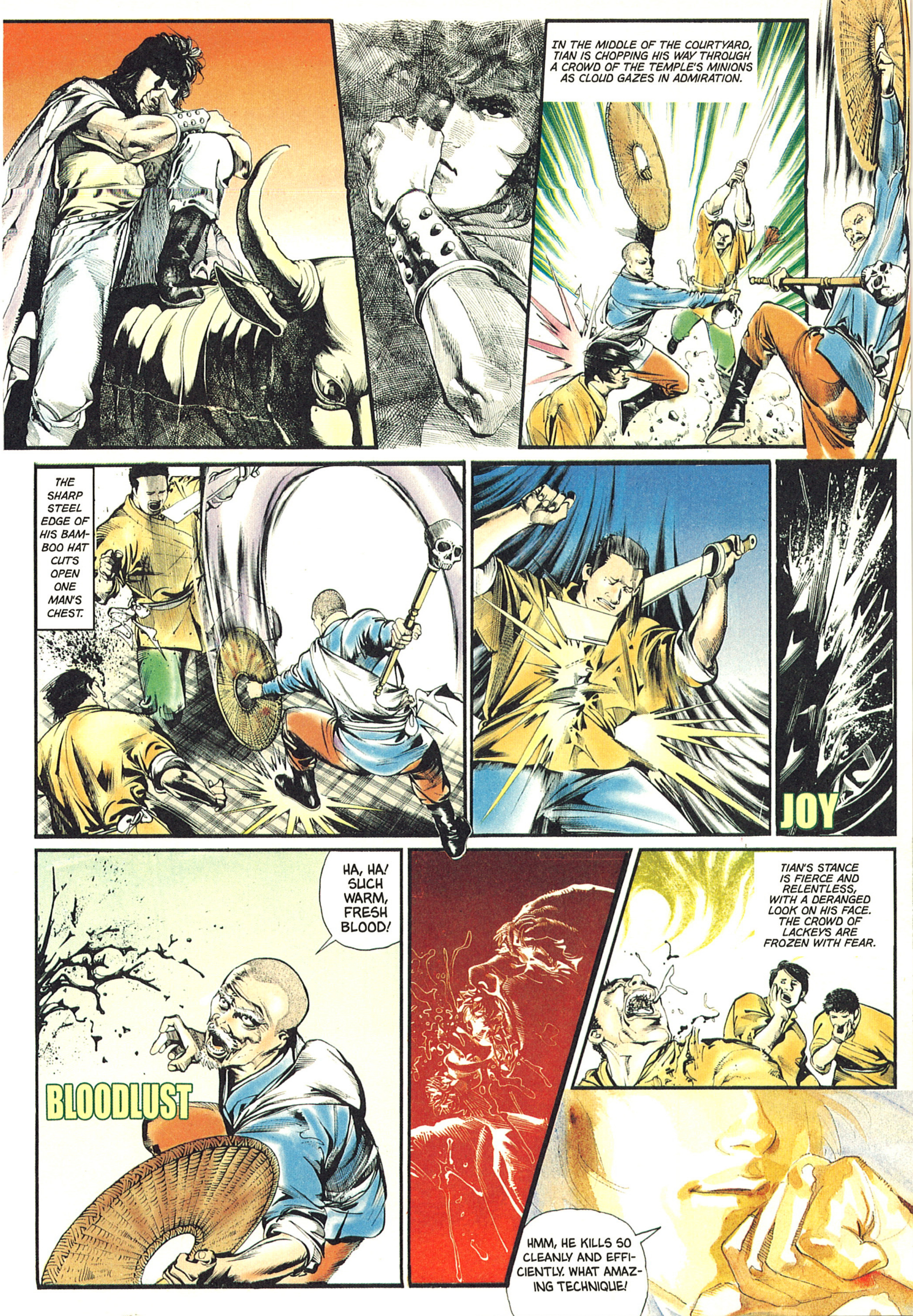

SNAP

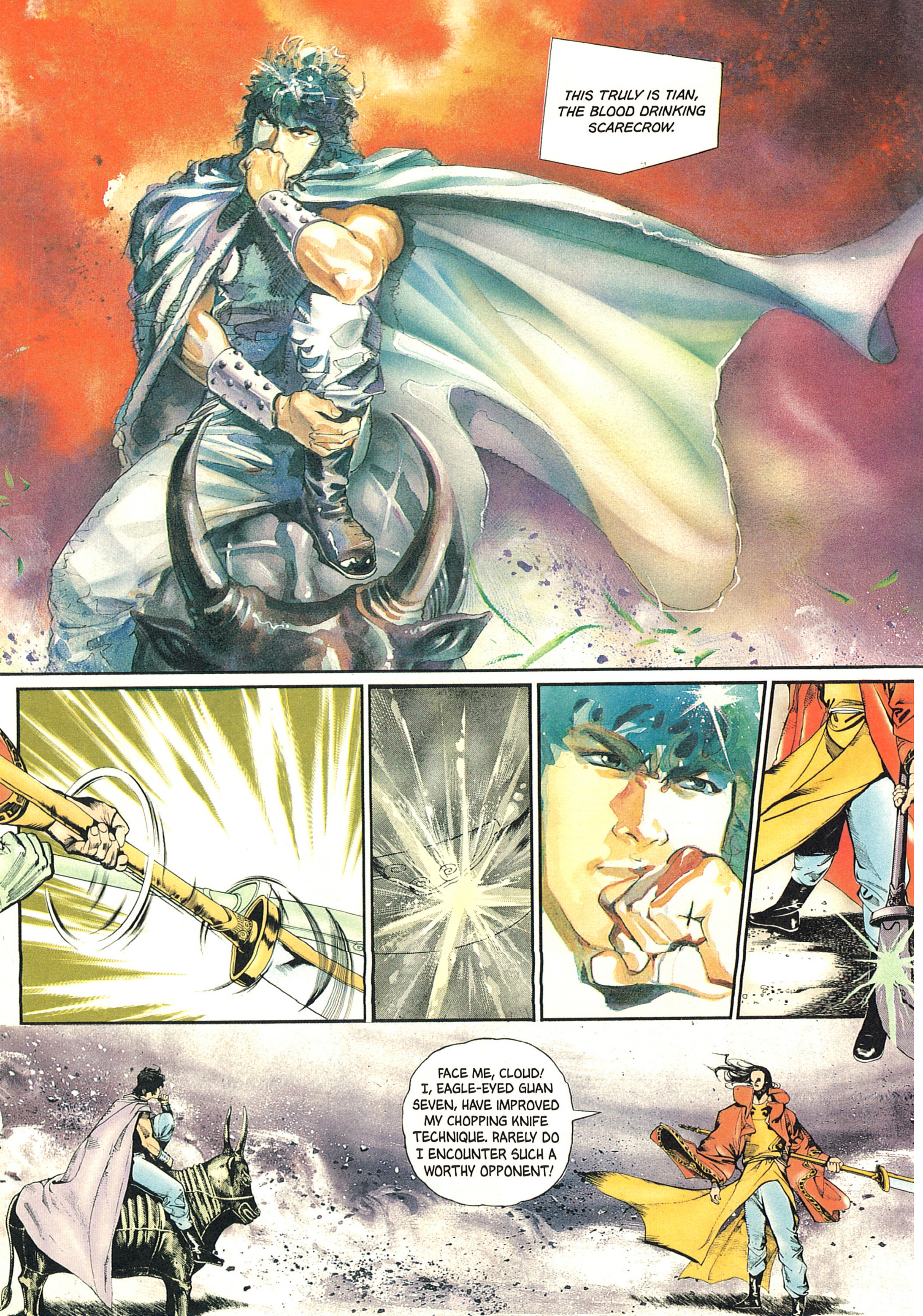

CLOUD FURIOUSLY ENTERS, BREAKING THROUGH THE ROOF AND LANDING IN THE CENTER OF THE EXAMINATION COURT.
IN THE HIGHEST LIVING QUARTERS, CLOUD FINDS TWO OF THE COURT'S ATTENDANTS STANDING DUMBSTRUCK. LING BU-FONG HAS ALREADY VANISHED.
WOP!
WHERE IS LING BU-FONG?!
WITH A GREAT ROAR, THE ROOF BURSTS APART AS GUAN SEVEN ARRIVES.

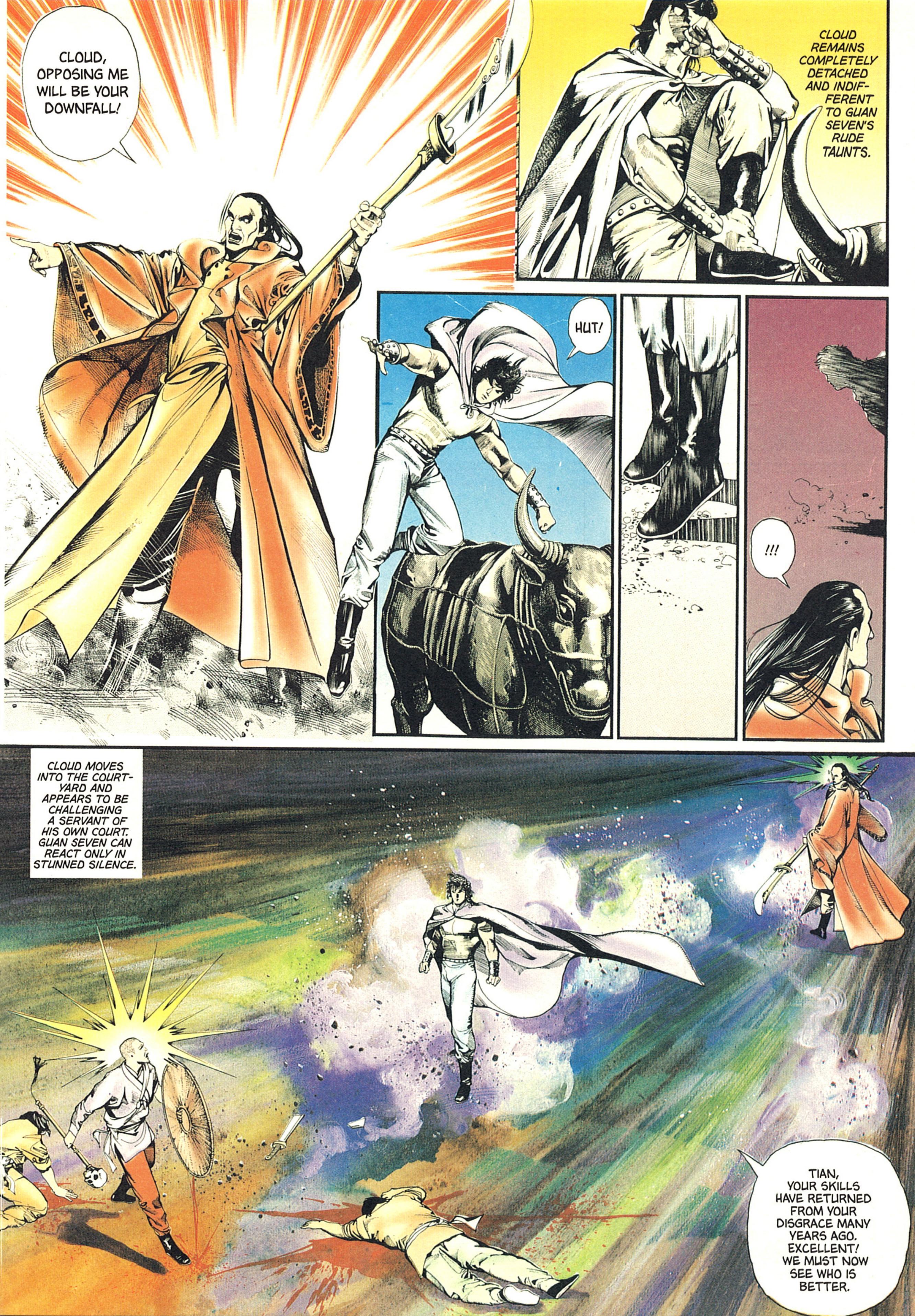

GUAN SEVEN UNLEASHES A SERIES OF BLASTS, CAUSING AN EXPLOSION OF LIGHT. CLOUD RETREATS TO AVOID THE FULL BRUNT OF THE ATTACK. EXECUTING A MASTERSTROKE, GUAN SEVEN VOWS TO FIGHT UNTIL THE CONCLUSION.
CHOPPING KNIFE
Killing Spree
HEAD
JUST NOW, CLOUD CAN HEAR THE SOUND OF KILLING OUTSIDE THE TEMPLE.
REPELLING PALM
Phantom of the Clouds
WITHOUT THINKING, CLOUD TOSSES ASIDE THE MINION AND LEAVES TO INVESTIGATE THE NOISES.
GUAN SEVEN'S SWORD MOVES LIKE LIGHTNING, AN ACTION DIFFICULT TO STOP. THE UNLUCKY COURT MINION IS SLAUGHTERED.
KA-THWAM

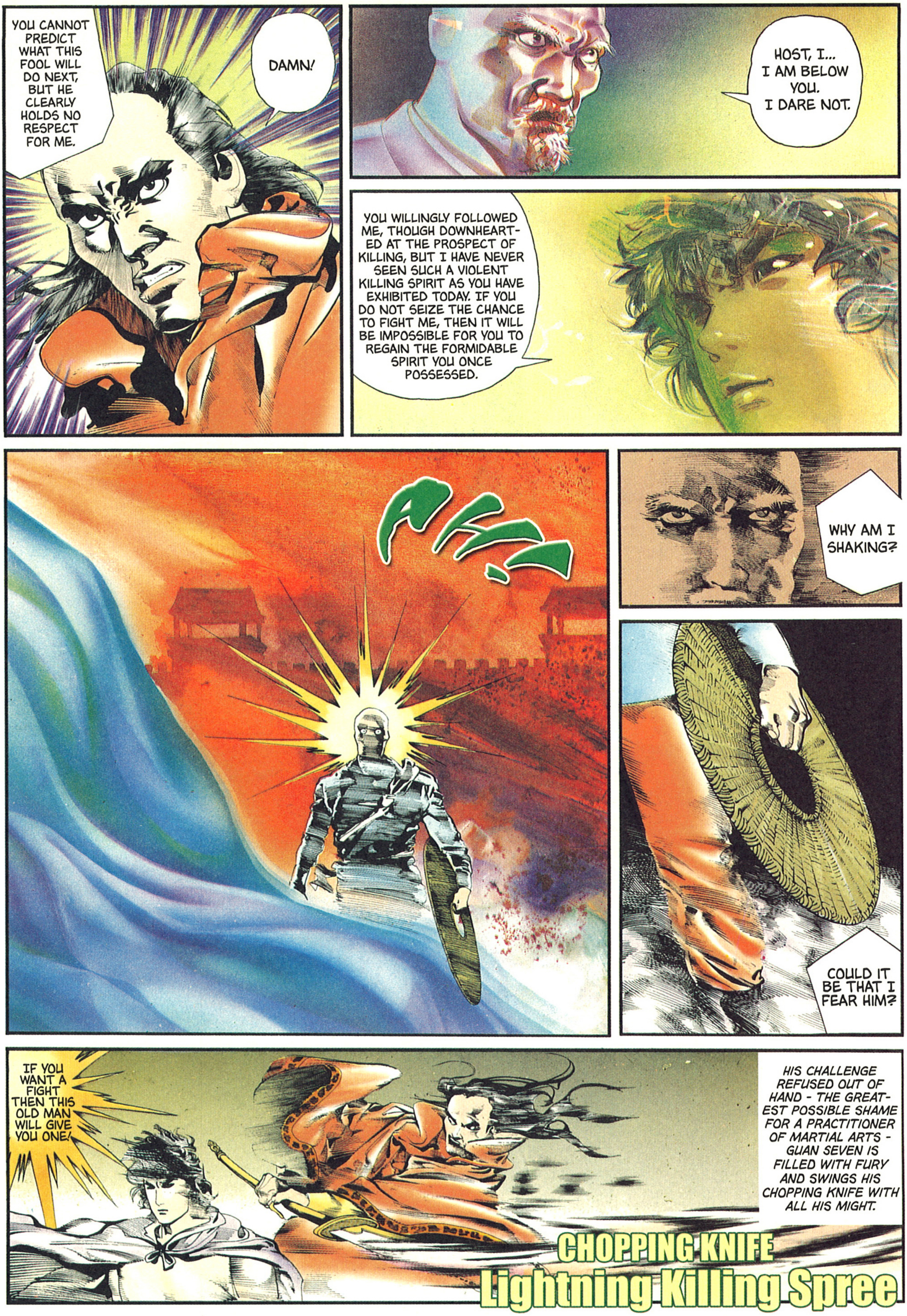

CRASH
IT SEEMS HE'S AVOIDING BATTLE. WHAT THE HELL IS HE DOING?!
HAH! THOUGH I'M AN OLD MAN WITH THE NICKNAME "EAGLE-EYED GUAN SEVEN," HE MUST BE SCARED OF ME. LOOK AT HIM USING THE "PHANTOM OF THE CLOUDS."
HE DOES NOT DARE FACE ME.

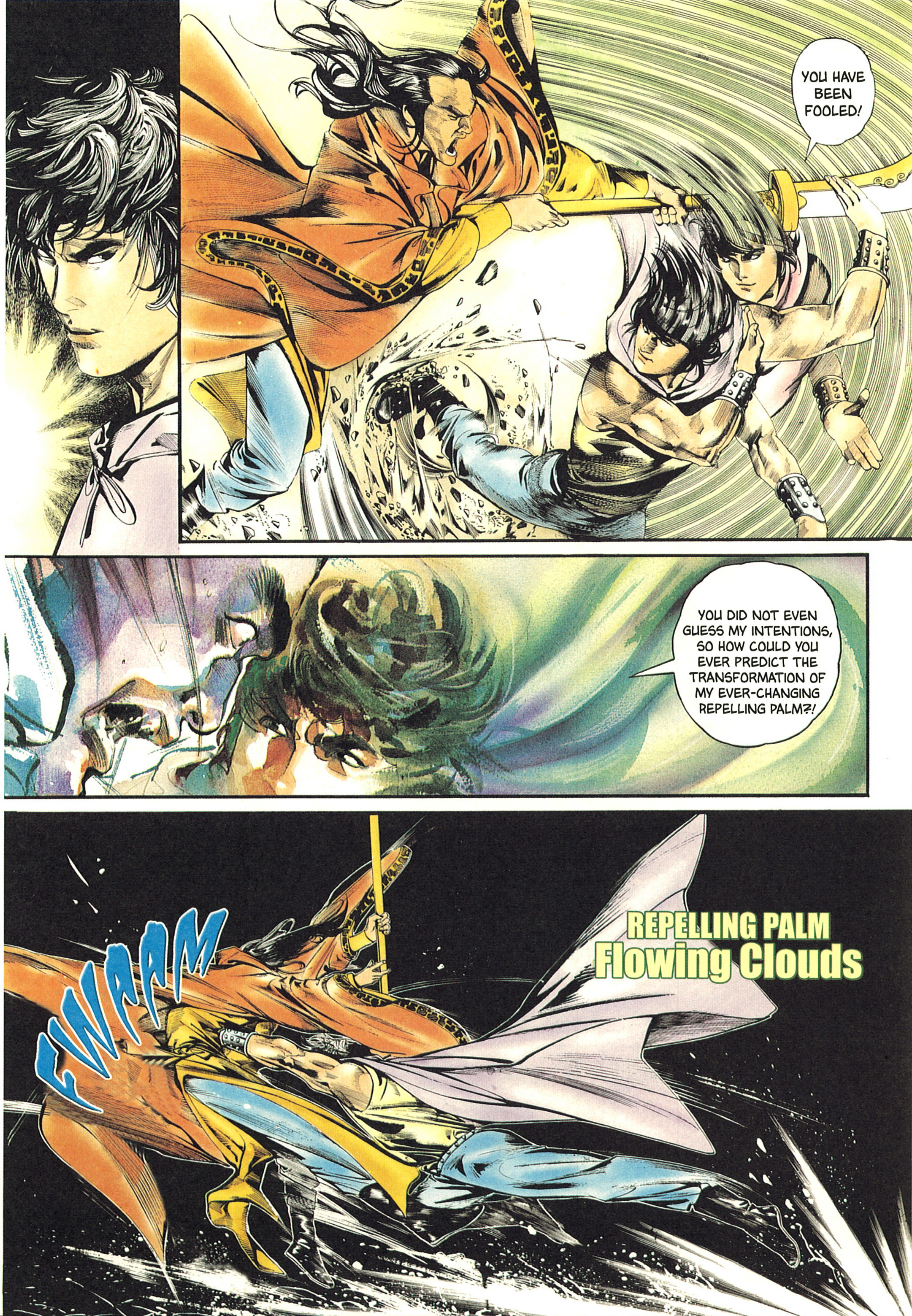

GUAN SEVEN RUSHES OUTSIDE, BRIMMING WITH CONFIDENCE AND SATISFACTION.
DROPPING INTO THE COURTYARD, HE FREEZES WITH AMAZEMENT AT WHAT HE SEES BEFORE HIM..
WHAT IS HE DOING NOW?!
HE SEES CLOUD SITTING MOTIONLESS ON ONE OF THE COURTYARD'S STONE BULLS. FOR WHAT REASON, GUAN SEVEN IS UNABLE TO GUESS, BUT HE DOES NOT DARE ATTACK.

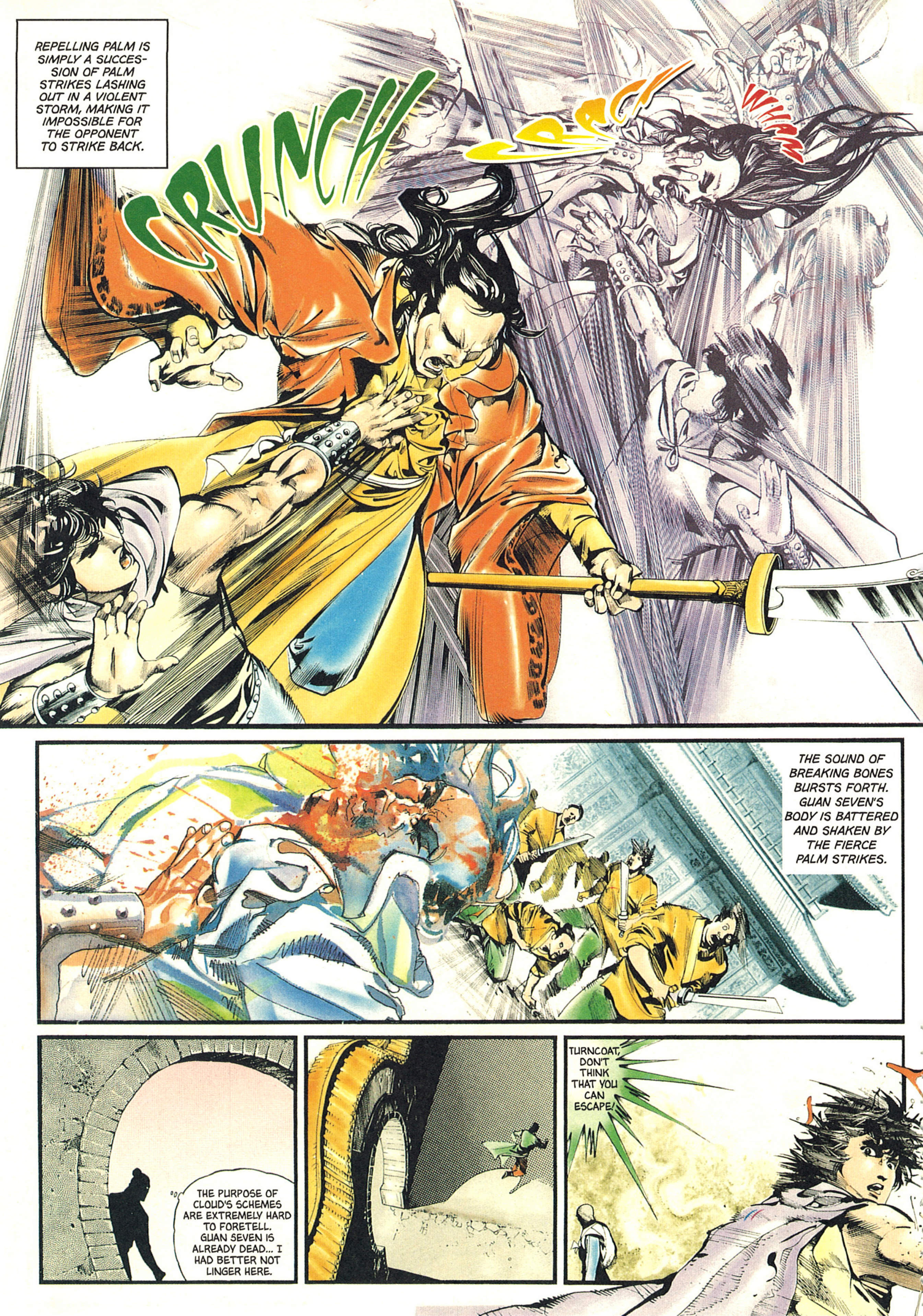

IN THE MIDDLE OF THE COURTYARD, TIAN IS CHOPPING HIS WAY THROUGH A CROWD OF THE TEMPLE'S MINIONS AS CLOUD GAZES IN ADMIRATION.
THE SHARP STEEL EDGE OF HIS BAMBOO HAT CUTS OPEN ONE MAN'S CHEST.
JOY
HA, HA! SUCH WARM, FRESH BLOOD!
BLOODLUST
TIAN'S STANCE IS FIERCE AND RELENTLESS, WITH A DERANGED LOOK ON HIS FACE. THE CROWD OF LACKEYS ARE FROZEN WITH FEAR.
HMM, HE KILLS SO CLEANLY AND EFFICIENTLY. WHAT AMAZING TECHNIQUE!

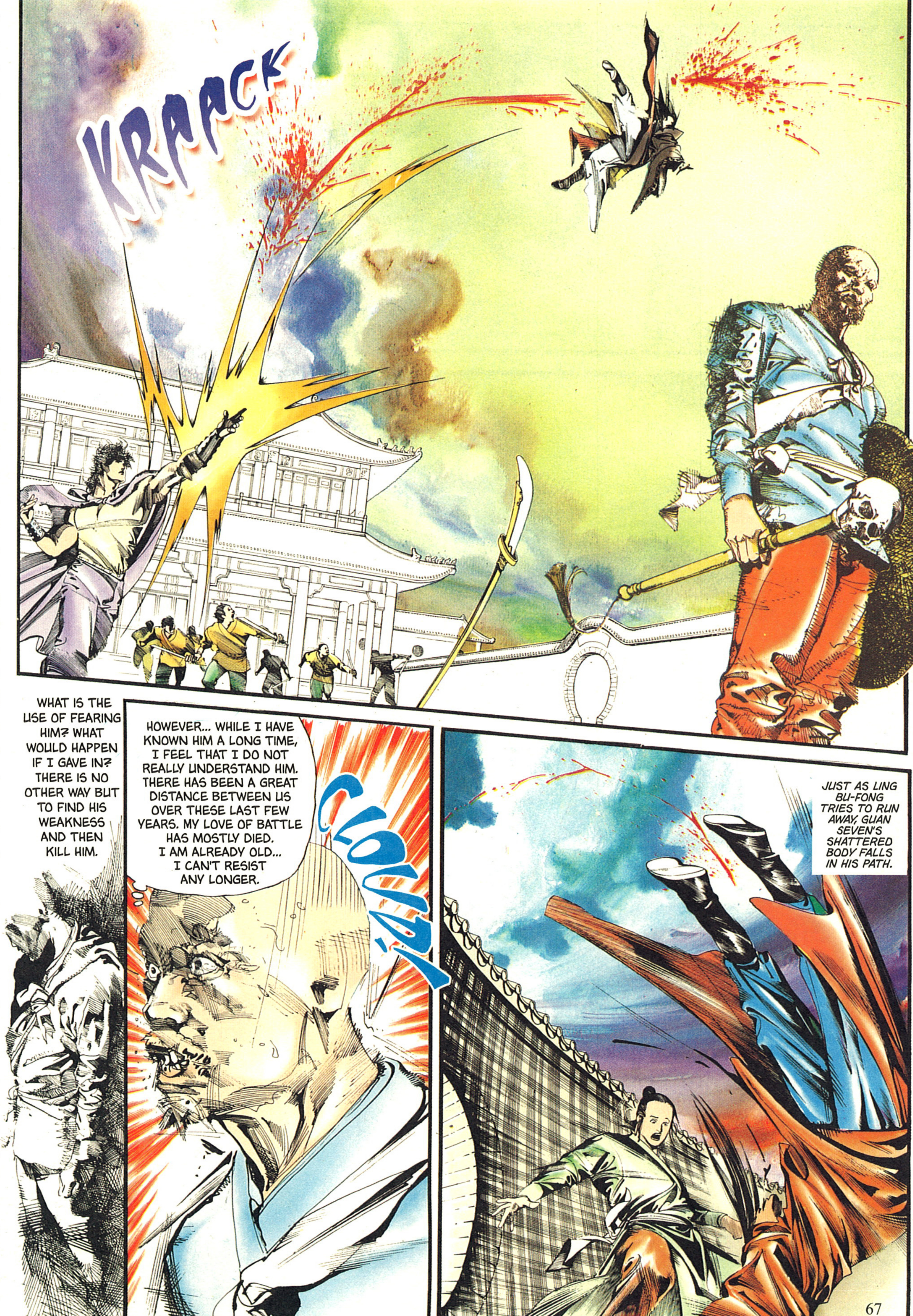

THIS TRULY IS TIAN, THE BLOOD DRINKING SCARECROW.
FACE ME, CLOUD! I, EAGLE-EYED GUAN SEVEN, HAVE IMPROVED MY CHOPPING KNIFE TECHNIQUE. RARELY DO I ENCOUNTER SUCH A WORTHY OPPONENT!

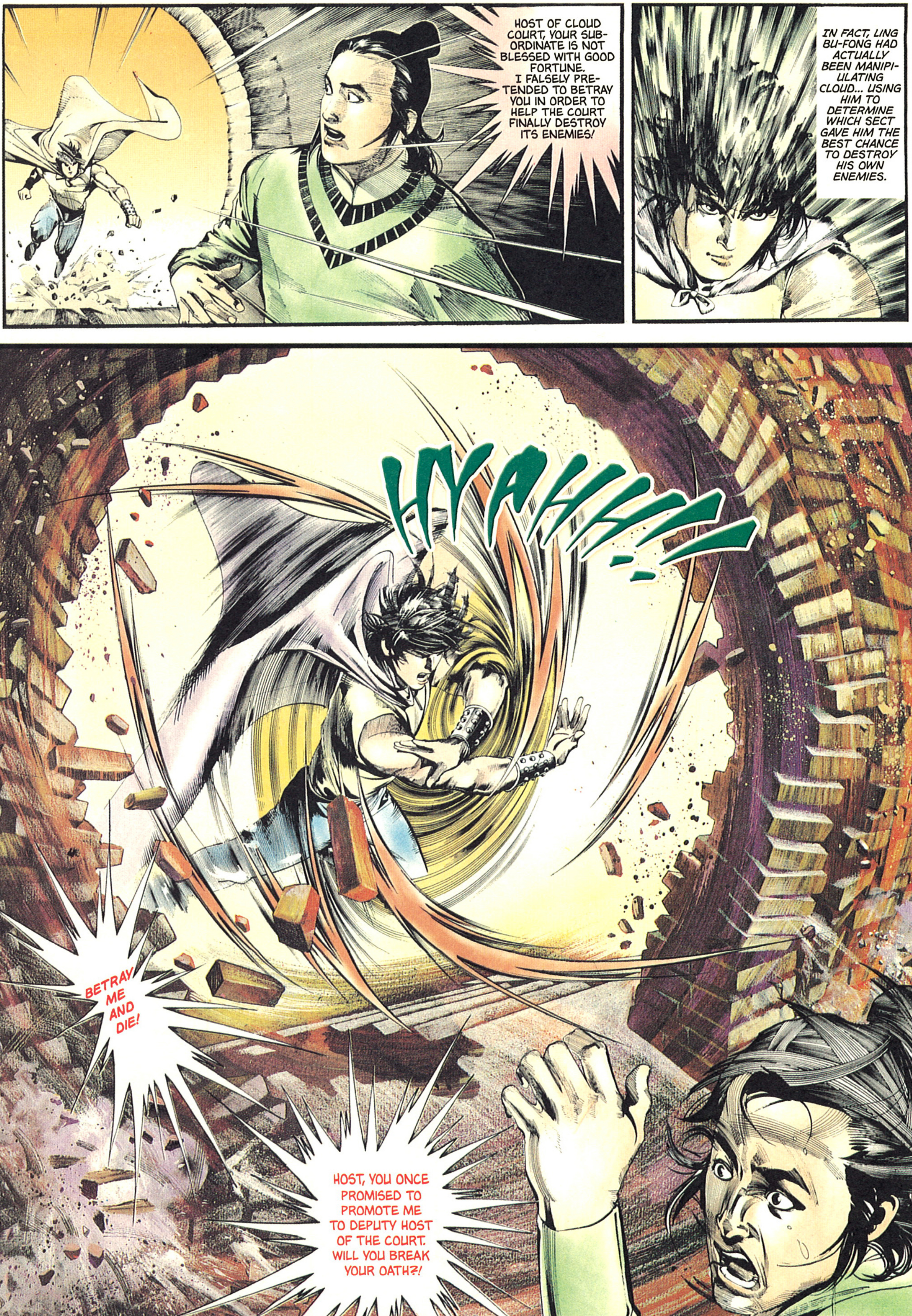

CLOUD, OPPOSING ME WILL BE YOUR DOWNFALL!
CLOUD REMAINS COMPLETELY DETACHED AND INDIFFERENT TO GUAN SEVEN'S RUDE TAUNTS.
HUT!
!!!
CLOUD MOVES INTO THE COURTYARD AND APPEARS TO BE CHALLENGING A SERVANT OF HIS OWN COURT. GUAN SEVEN CAN REACT ONLY IN STUNNED SILENCE.
TIAN, YOUR SKILLS HAVE RETURNED FROM YOUR DISGRACE MANY YEARS AGO. EXCELLENT! WE MUST NOW SEE WHO IS BETTER.

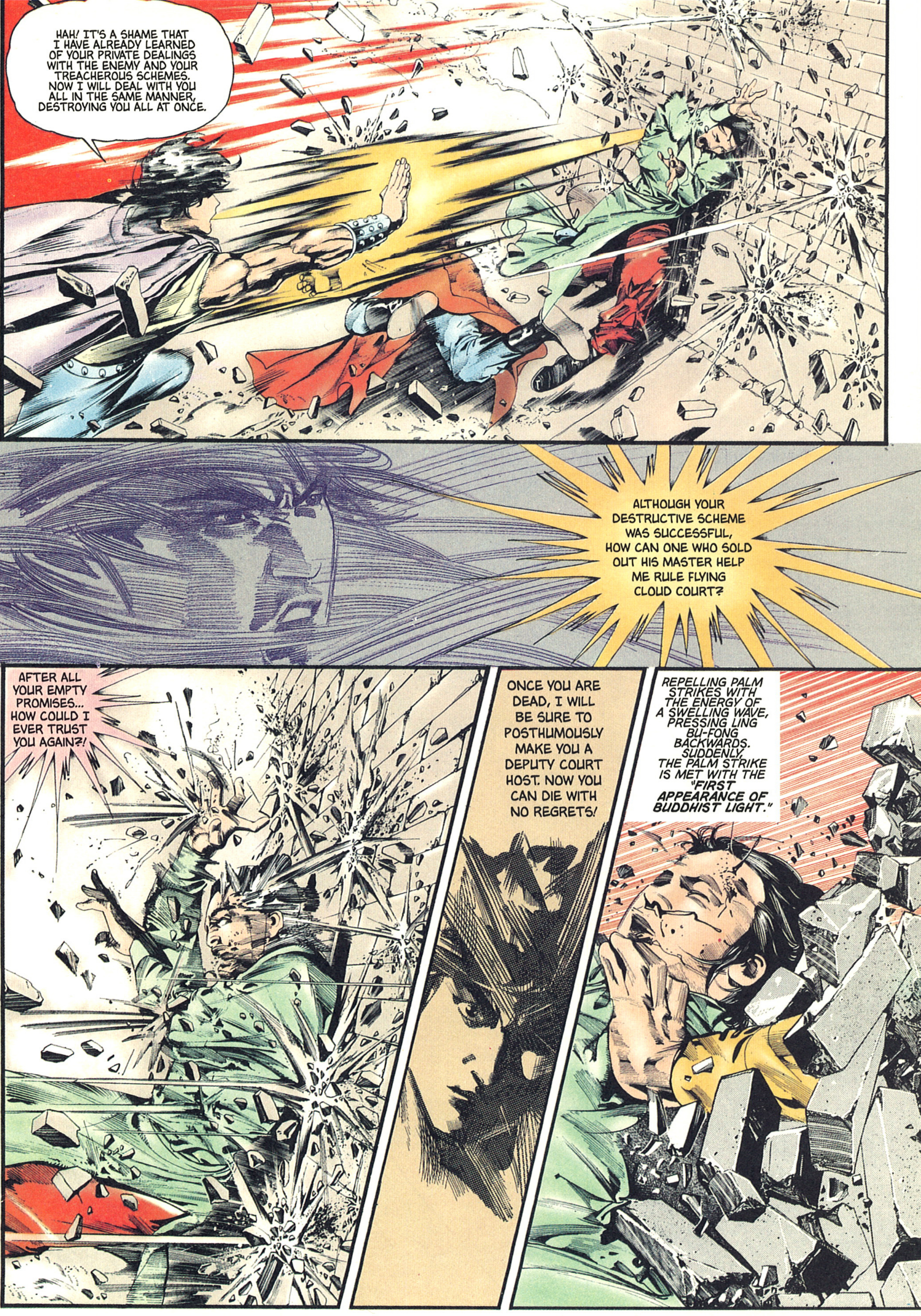

YOU CANNOT PREDICT WHAT THIS FOOL WILL DO NEXT, BUT HE CLEARLY HOLDS NO RESPECT FOR ME.
DAMN!
HOST, I... I AM BELOW YOU. I DARE NOT.
YOU WILLINGLY FOLLOWED ME, THOUGH DOWNHEARTED AT THE PROSPECT OF KILLING, BUT I HAVE NEVER SEEN SUCH A VIOLENT KILLING SPIRIT AS YOU HAVE EXHIBITED TODAY. IF YOU DO NOT SEIZE THE CHANCE TO FIGHT ME, THEN IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU TO REGAIN THE FORMIDABLE SPIRIT YOU ONCE POSSESSED.
AH!
WHY AM I SHAKING?
COULD IT BE THAT I FEAR HIM?
IF YOU WANT A FIGHT THEN THIS OLD MAN WILL GIVE YOU ONE!
HIS CHALLENGE REFUSED OUT OF HAND - THE GREATEST POSSIBLE SHAME FOR A PRACTITIONER OF MARTIAL ARTS - GUAN SEVEN IS FILLED WITH FURY AND SWINGS HIS CHOPPING KNIFE WITH ALL HIS MIGHT.
CHOPPING KNIFE
Lightning Killing Spree

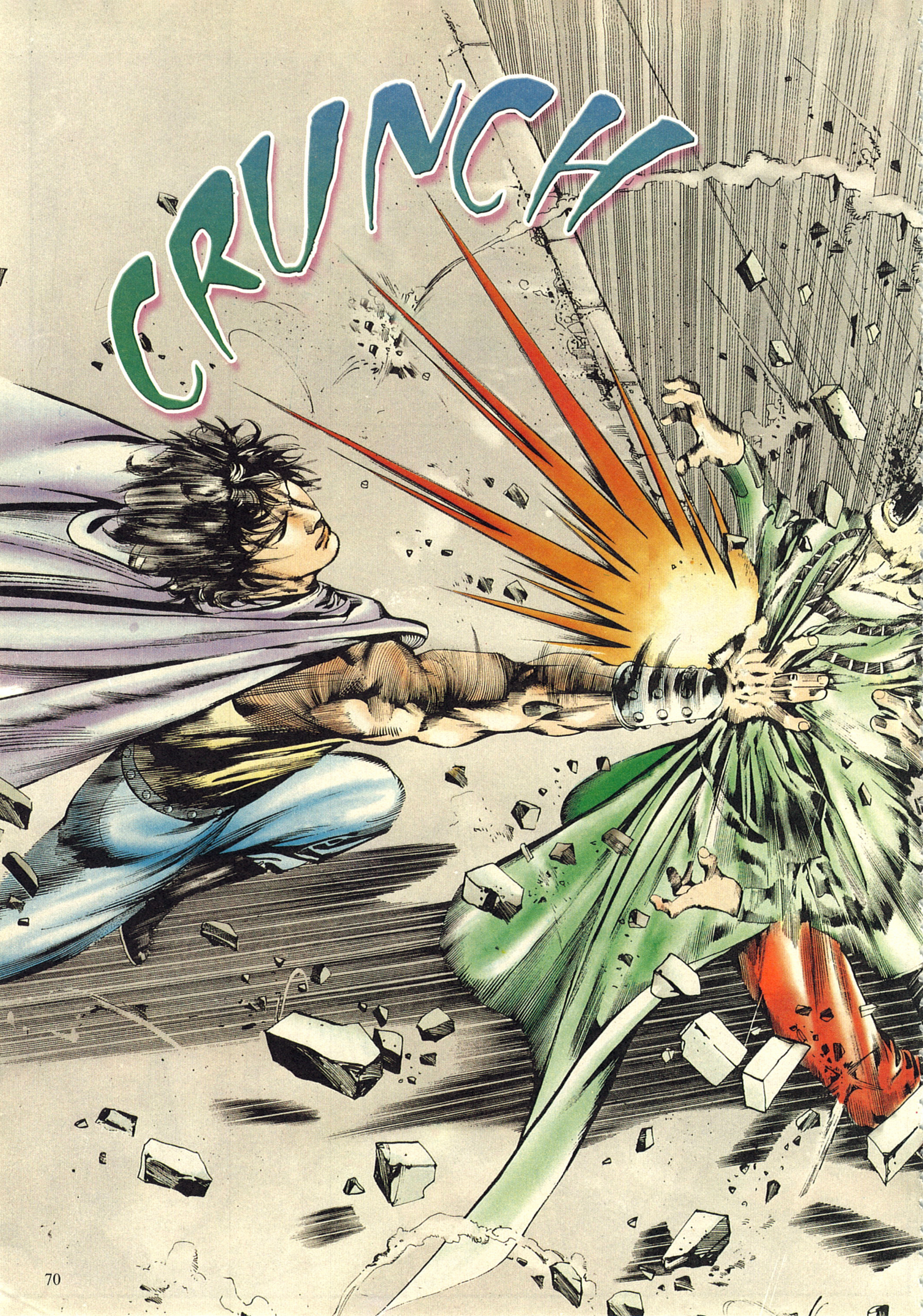

YOU HAVE BEEN FOOLED!
YOU DID NOT EVEN GUESS MY INTENTIONS, SO HOW COULD YOU EVER PREDICT THE TRANSFORMATION OF MY EVER-CHANGING REPELLING PALM?!
REPELLING PALM
Flowing Clouds
FWAAM

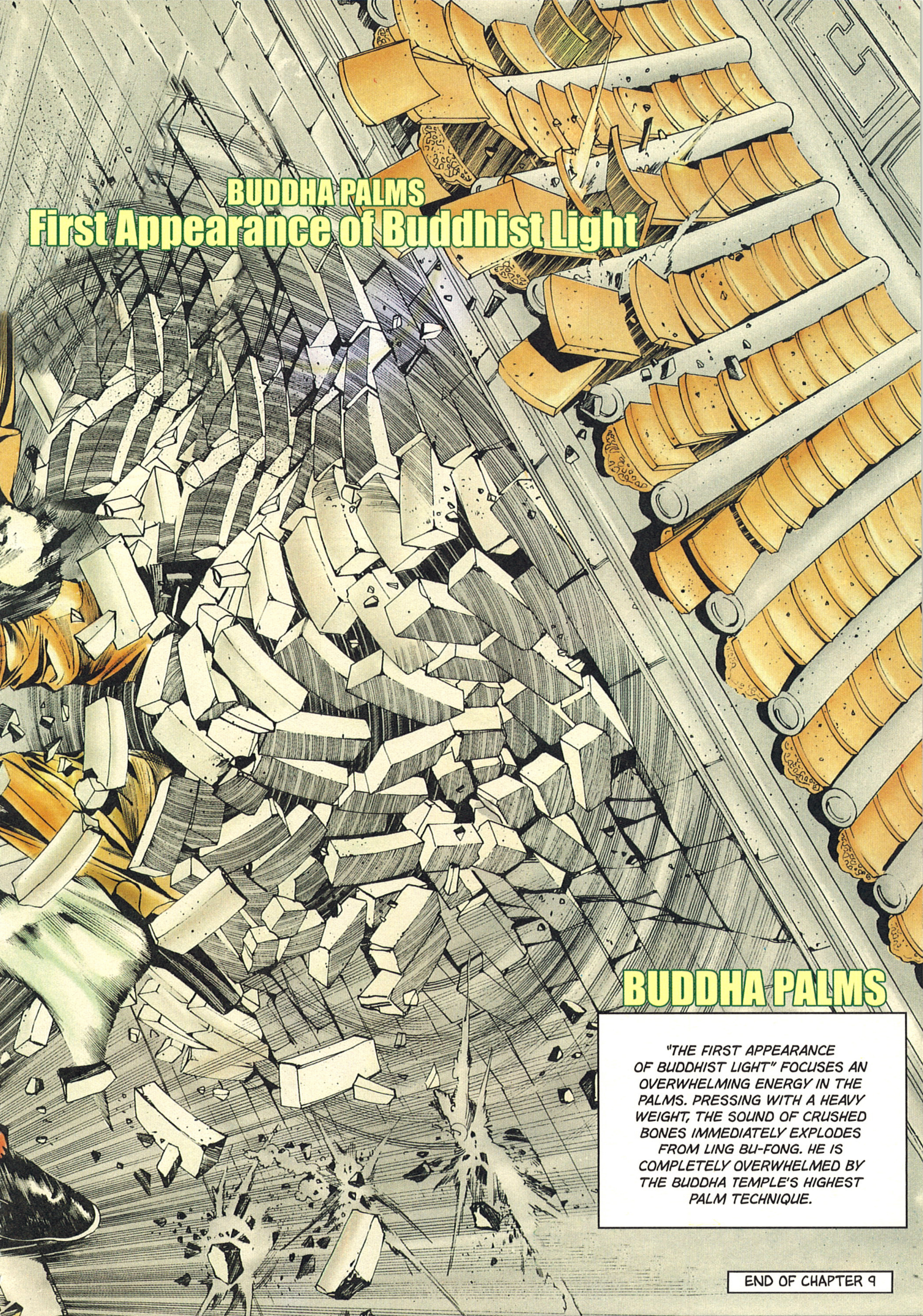

REPELLING PALM IS SIMPLY A SUCCESSION OF PALM STRIKES LASHING OUT IN A VIOLENT STORM, MAKING IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE OPPONENT TO STRIKE BACK.
CRUNCH
CRACK
WHAM
THE SOUND OF BREAKING BONES BURSTS FORTH. GUAN SEVEN'S BODY IS BATTERED AND SHAKEN BY THE FIERCE PALM STRIKES.
THE PURPOSE OF CLOUD'S SCHEMES ARE EXTREMELY HARD TO FORETELL. GUAN SEVEN IS ALREADY DEAD... I HAD BETTER NOT LINGER HERE.
TURNCOAT, DON'T THINK THAT YOU CAN ESCAPE!


KRAACK
WHAT IS THE USE OF FEARING HIM? WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF I GAVE IN? THERE IS NO OTHER WAY BUT TO FIND HIS WEAKNESS AND THEN KILL HIM.
HOWEVER... WHILE I HAVE KNOWN HIM A LONG TIME, I FEEL THAT I DO NOT REALLY UNDERSTAND HIM. THERE HAS BEEN A GREAT DISTANCE BETWEEN US OVER THESE LAST FEW YEARS. MY LOVE OF BATTLE HAS MOSTLY DIED. I AM ALREADY OLD... I CAN'T RESIST ANY LONGER.
CLOUD!
JUST AS LING BU-FONG TRIES TO RUN AWAY, GUAN SEVEN'S SHATTERED BODY FALLS IN HIS PATH.


HOST OF CLOUD COURT, YOUR SUBORDINATE IS NOT BLESSED WITH GOOD FORTUNE. I FALSELY PRETENDED TO BETRAY YOU IN ORDER TO HELP THE COURT FINALLY DESTROY ITS ENEMIES!
IN FACT, LING BU-FONG HAD ACTUALLY BEEN MANIPIULATING CLOUD... USING HIM TO DETERMINE WHICH SECT GAVE HIM THE BEST CHANCE TO DESTROY HIS OWN ENEMIES.
HYAHH!!
BETRAY ME AND DIE!
HOST, YOU ONCE PROMISED TO PROMOTE ME TO DEPUTY HOST OF THE COURT. WILL YOU BREAK YOUR OATH?!


HAH! IT'S A SHAME THAT I HAVE ALREADY LEARNED OF YOUR PRIVATE DEALINGS WITH THE ENEMY AND YOUR TREACHEROUS SCHEMES. NOW I WILL DEAL WITH YOU ALL IN THE SAME MANNER, DESTROYING YOU ALL AT ONCE.
ALTHOUGH YOUR DESTRUCTIVE SCHEME WAS SUCCESSFUL, HOW CAN ONE WHO SOLD OUT HIS MASTER HELP ME RULE FLYING CLOUD COURT?
AFTER ALL YOUR EMPTY PROMISES... HOW COULD I EVER TRUST YOU AGAIN?!
ONCE YOU ARE DEAD, I WILL BE SURE TO POSTHUMOUSLY MAKE YOU A DEPUTY COURT HOST. NOW YOU CAN DIE WITH NO REGRETS!
REPELLING PALM STRIKES WITH THE ENERGY OF A SWELLING WAVE, PRESSING LING BU-FONG BACKWARDS. SUDDENLY, THE PALM STRIKE IS MET WITH THE "FIRST APPEARANCE OF BUDDHIST LIGHT."

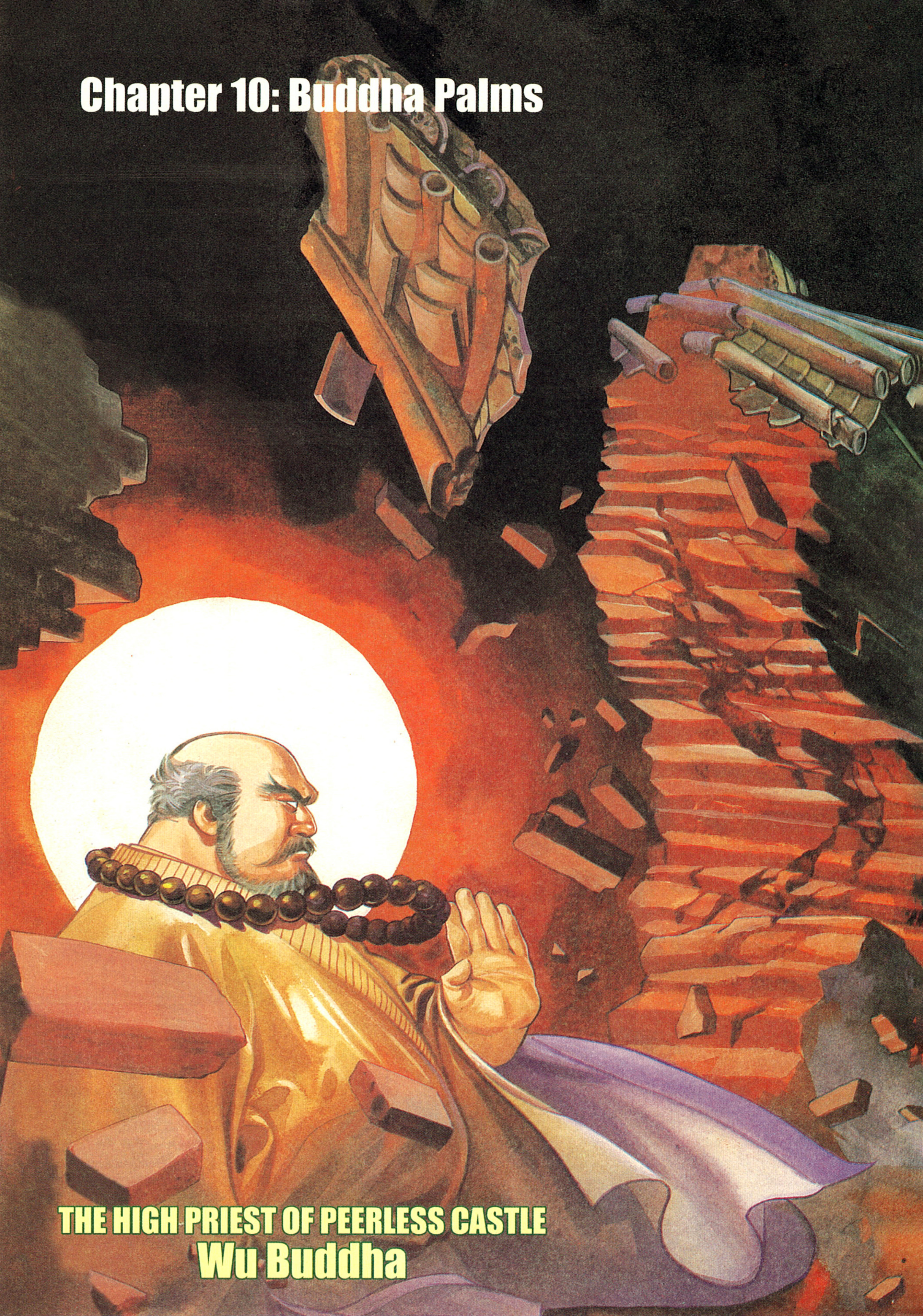

CRUNCH


BUDDHA PALMS
First Appearance of Buddhist Light
BUDDHA PALMS

"THE FIRST APPEARANCE OF BUDDHIST LIGHT" FOCUSES AN OVERWHELMING ENERGY IN THE PALMS. PRESSING WITH A HEAVY WEIGHT, THE SOUND OF CRUSHED BONES IMMEDIATELY EXPLODES FROM LING BU-FONG. HE IS COMPLETELY OVERWHELMED BY THE BUDDHA TEMPLE'S HIGHEST PALM TECHNIQUE.

END OF CHAPTER 9

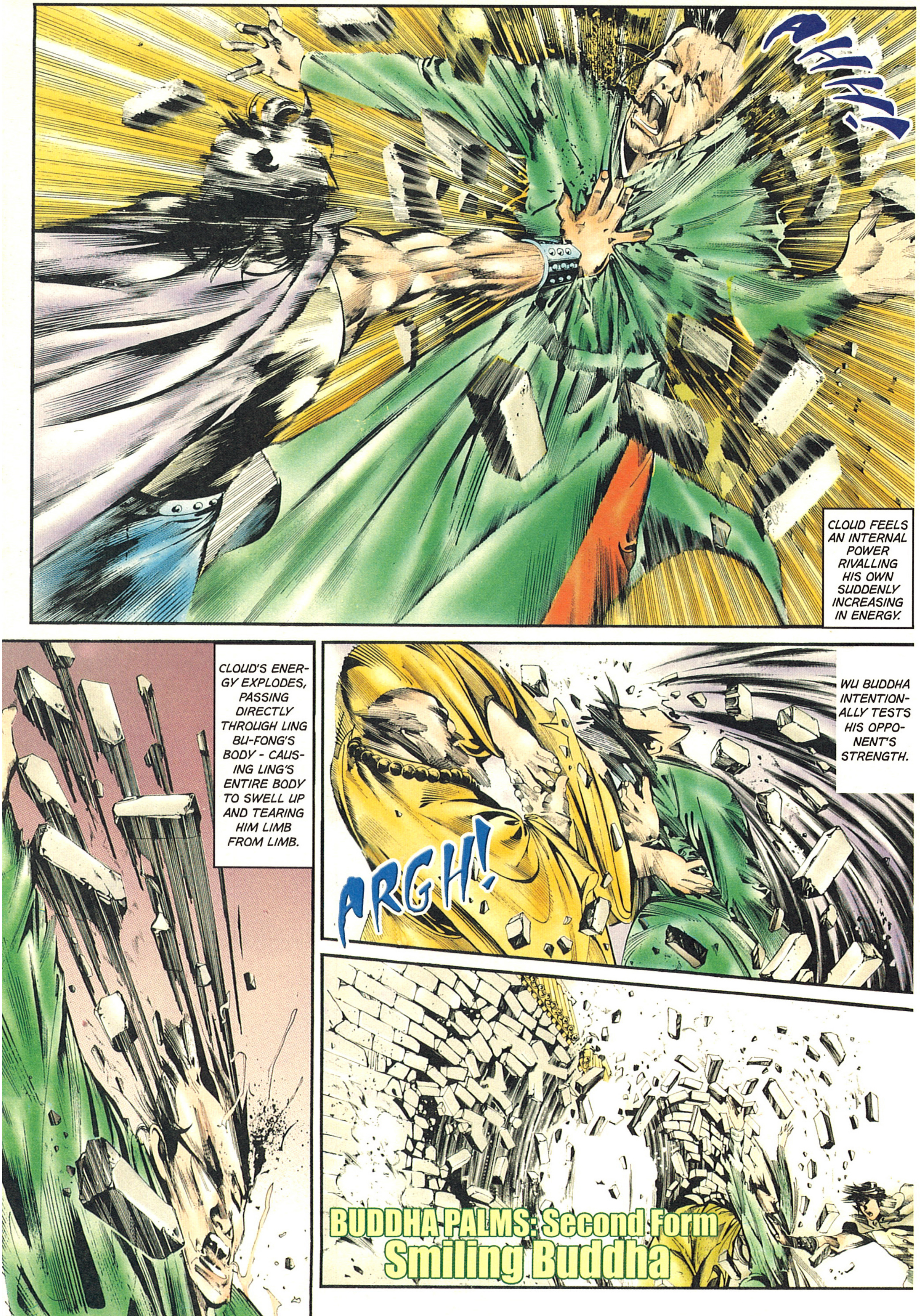
# Chapter 10: Buddha Palms

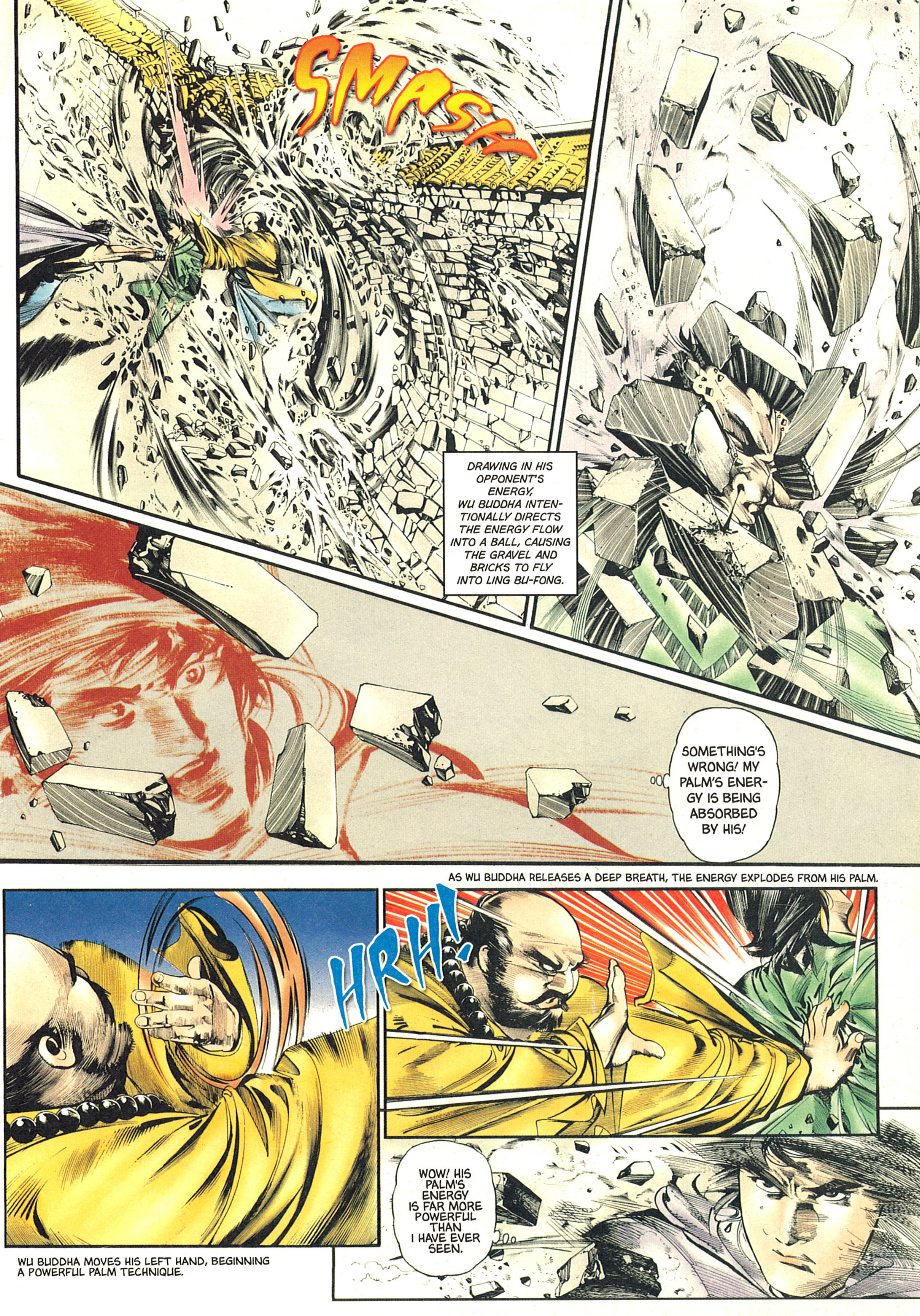

THE HIGH PRIEST OF PEERLESS CASTLE
Wu Buddha

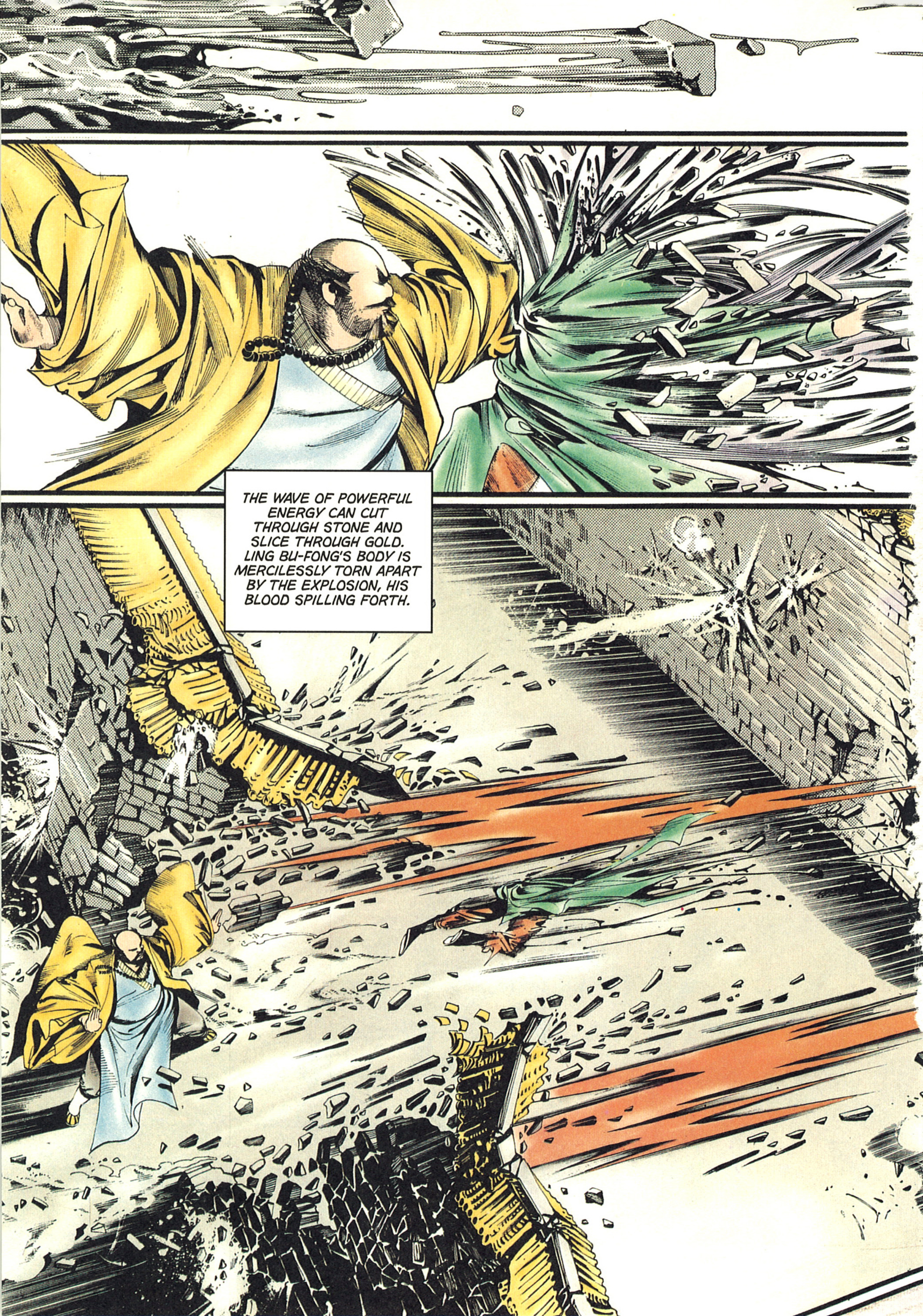
# BUDDHA PALMS

BUDDHA PALMS IS A STYLE OF BUDDHIST KUNG-FU THAT EMPHASIZES "YANG" ENERGY. IT COMES FROM SAKYAMUNI'S STUDENT MU LIEN, WHO SUDDENLY COMPREHENDED THE NATURE OF THE UNIVERSE. AFTERWARDS HE TRAVELED EVERYWHERE PROMOTING THIS ART. NOW EVERYONE STILL SEEKS THE ORIGINAL TEACHING. THE STYLE PRACTICED BY WU BUDDHA IS THE MOST ORTHODOX, HANDED DOWN FROM MASTER TO DISCIPLE. BUDDHA PALMS IS DIVIDED INTO NINE FORMS, AND THE NINTH FORM CAME FROM MU LIEN. AFTER HIM, NO ONE WAS ABLE TO PRACTICE THIS NINTH FORM AND ITS TRADITION HAS SLOWLY FADED AWAY, BUT ITS POWER AND MYSTERY STILL REMAIN.

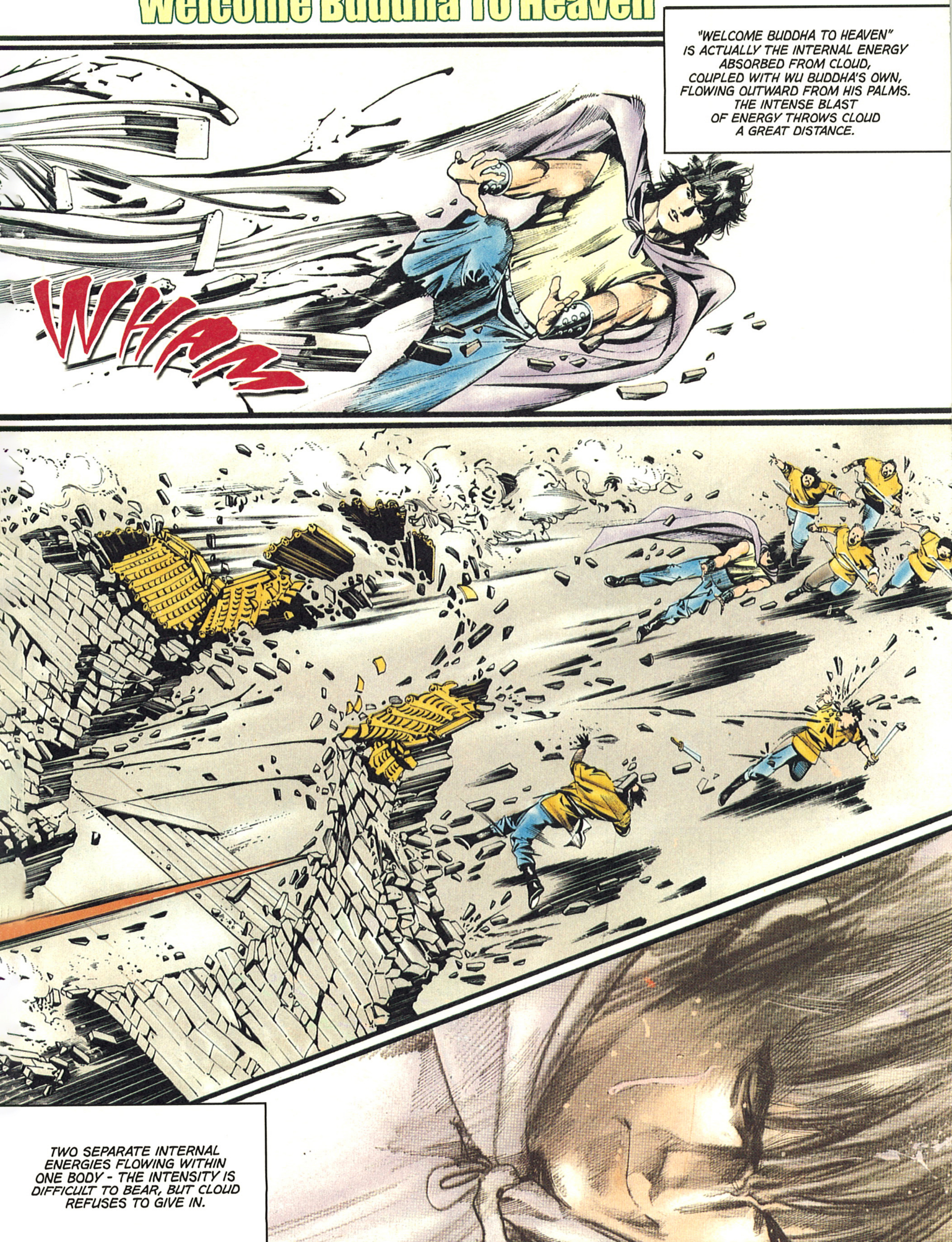
1. FIRST APPEARANCE OF BUDDHIST LIGHT
2. SMILING BUDDHA
3. WELCOME BUDDHA TO HEAVEN
4. GLOW OF BUDDHIST LIGHT
5. BOUNDLESS BUDDHISM
6. BIRTH OF BUDDHA
7. MOVING POWER OF BUDDHA
8. BUDDHISTS RETURN TO ONE

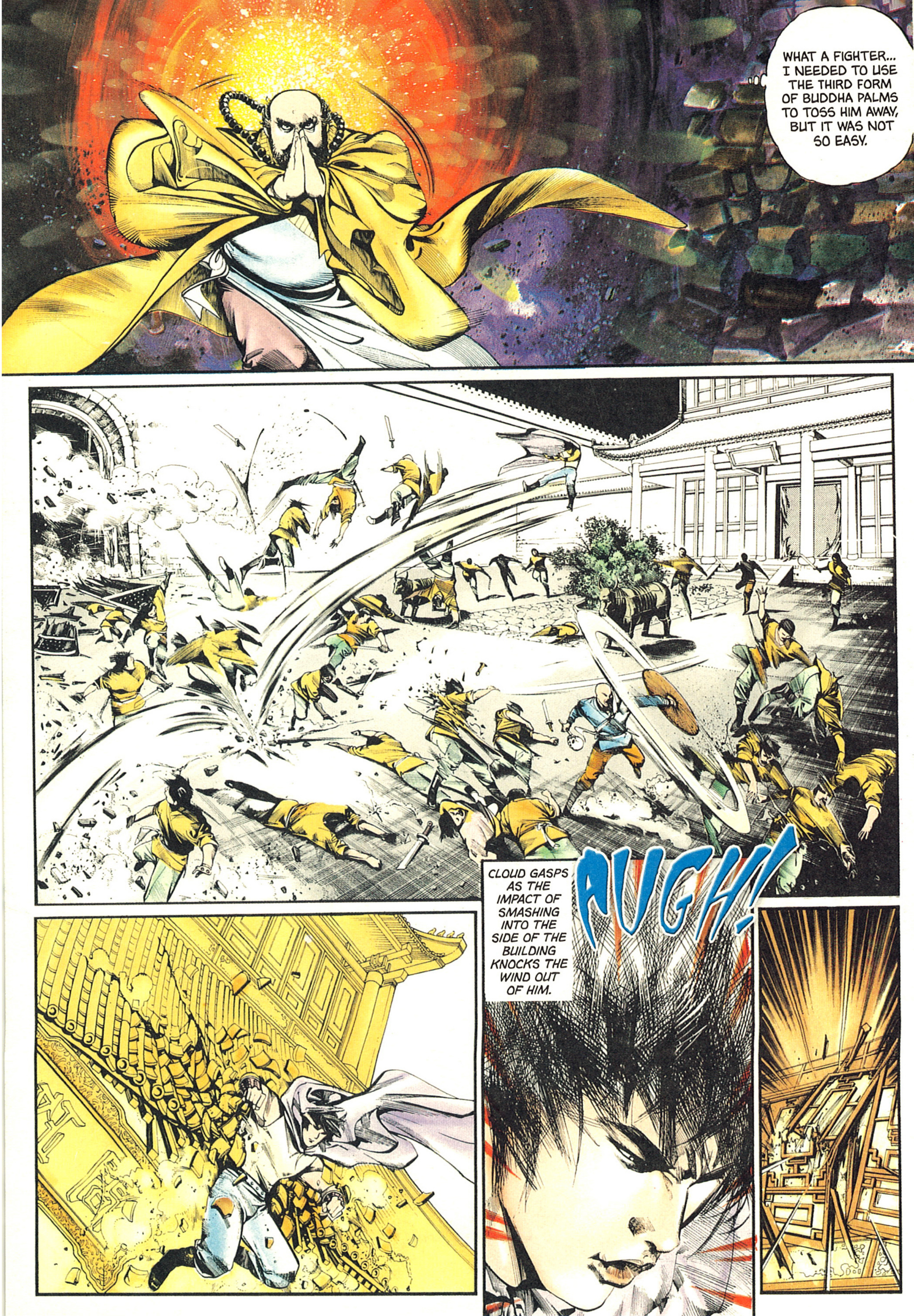

AHH!
CLOUD FEELS AN INTERNAL POWER RIVALLING HIS OWN SUDDENLY INCREASING IN ENERGY.
CLOUD'S ENERGY EXPLODES, PASSING DIRECTLY THROUGH LING BU-FONG'S BODY - CAUSING LING'S ENTIRE BODY TO SWELL UP AND TEARING HIM LIMB FROM LIMB.
WU BUDDHA INTENTIONALLY TESTS HIS OPPONENT'S STRENGTH.
ARGH!
BUDDHA PALMS: Second Form
Smiling Buddha

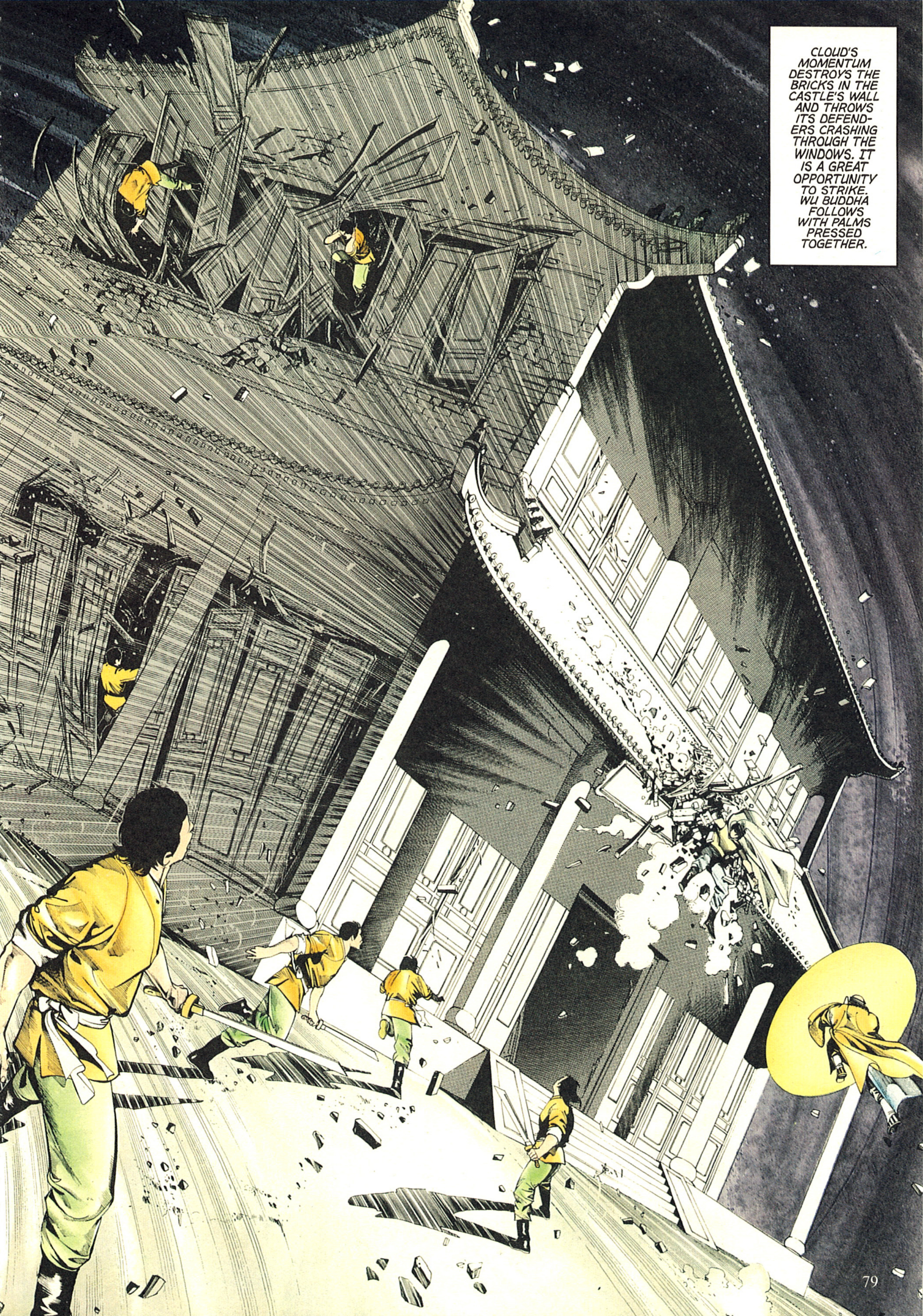

SMASH
DRAWING IN HIS OPPONENT'S ENERGY, WU BUDDHA INTENTIONALLY DIRECTS THE ENERGY FLOW INTO A BALL, CAUSING THE GRAVEL AND BRICKS TO FLY INTO LING BU-FONG.
SOMETHING'S WRONG! MY PALM'S ENERGY IS BEING ABSORBED BY HIS!
AS WU BUDDHA RELEASES A DEEP BREATH, THE ENERGY EXPLODES FROM HIS PALM.
WU BUDDHA MOVES HIS LEFT HAND, BEGINNING A POWERFUL PALM TECHNIQUE.
HRH!
WOW! HIS PALM'S ENERGY IS FAR MORE POWERFUL THAN I HAVE EVER SEEN.

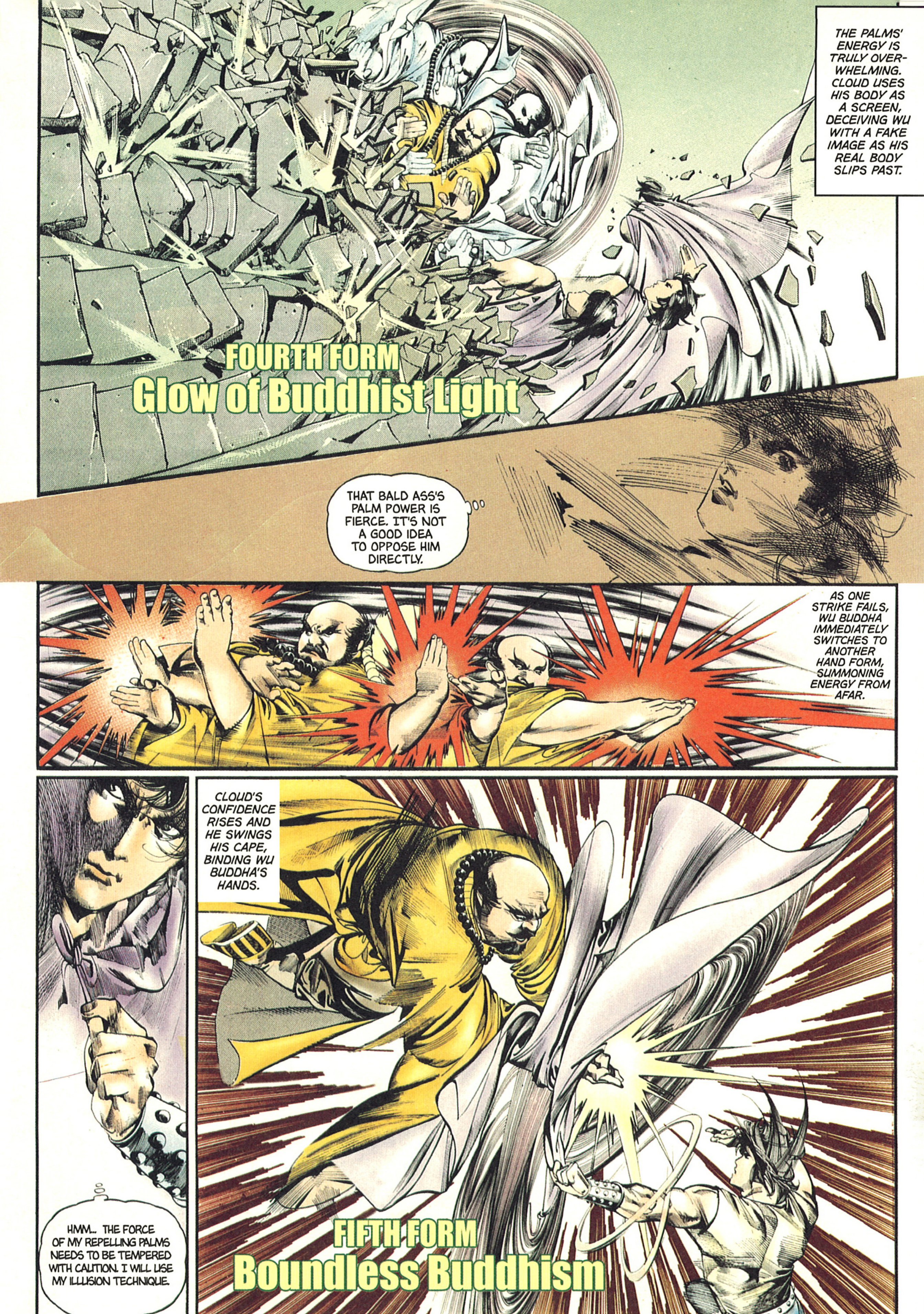

THE WAVE OF POWERFUL ENERGY CAN CUT THROUGH STONE AND SLICE THROUGH GOLD. LING BU-FONG'S BODY IS MERCILESSLY TORN APART BY THE EXPLOSION, HIS BLOOD SPILLING FORTH.

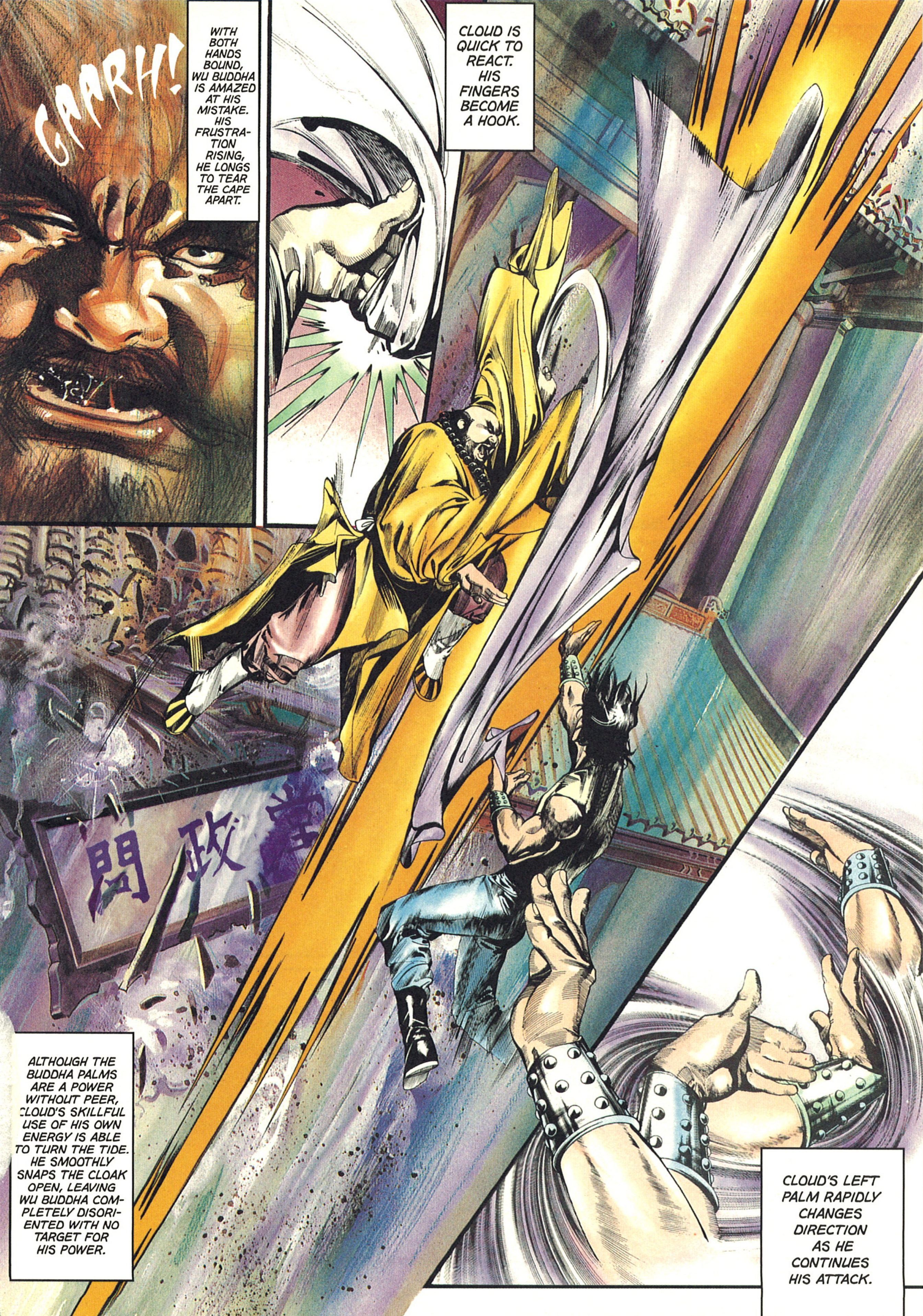
## BUDDHA PALMS: Third Form
## Welcome Buddha To Heaven

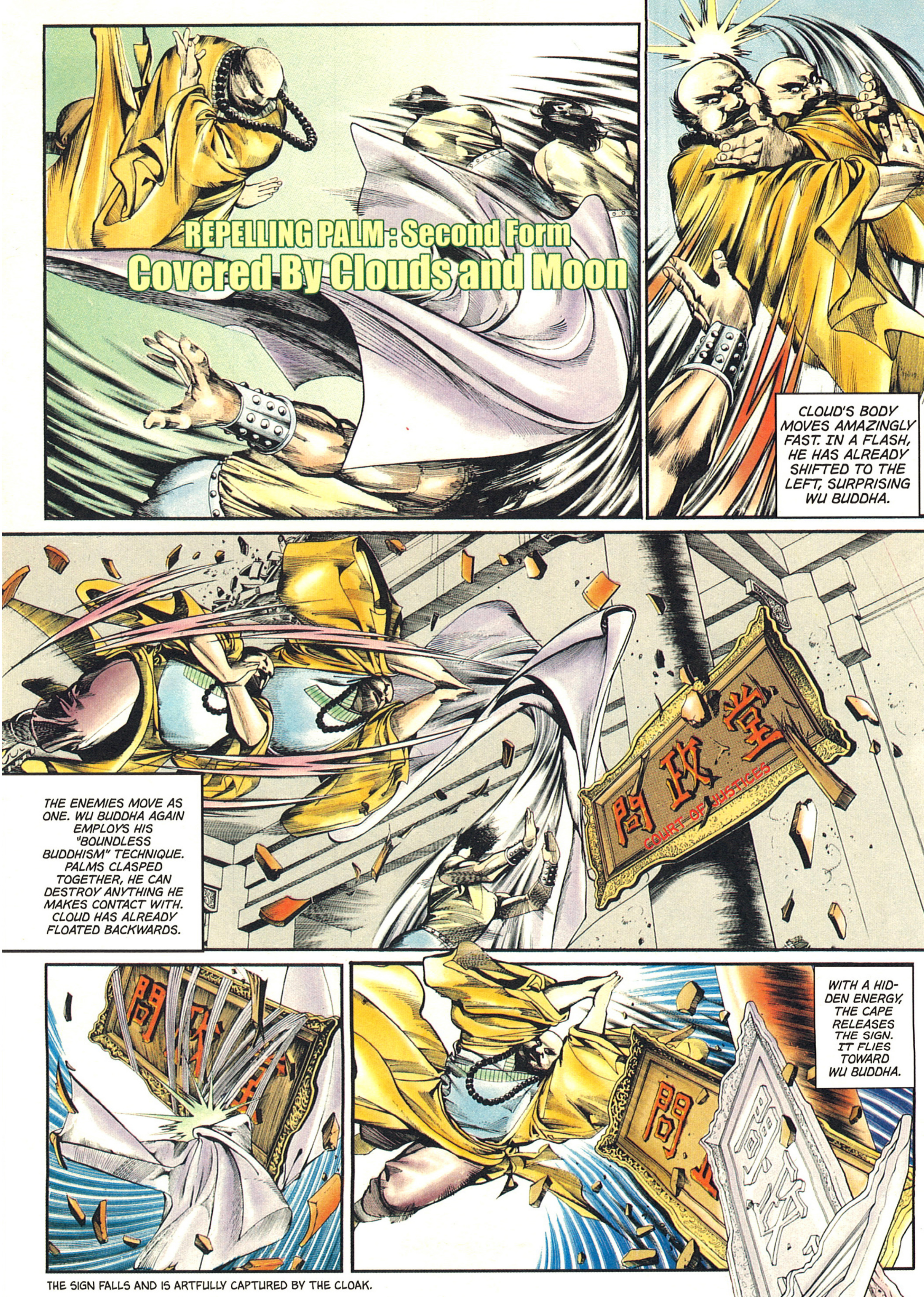

"WELCOME BUDDHA TO HEAVEN" IS ACTUALLY THE INTERNAL ENERGY ABSORBED FROM CLOUD, COUPLED WITH WU BUDDHA'S OWN, FLOWING OUTWARD FROM HIS PALMS. THE INTENSE BLAST OF ENERGY THROWS CLOUD A GREAT DISTANCE.
WHAM
TWO SEPARATE INTERNAL ENERGIES FLOWING WITHIN ONE BODY - THE INTENSITY IS DIFFICULT TO BEAR, BUT CLOUD REFUSES TO GIVE IN.


WHAT A FIGHTER... I NEEDED TO USE THE THIRD FORM OF BUDDHA PALMS TO TOSS HIM AWAY, BUT IT WAS NOT SO EASY.
CLOUD GASPS AS THE IMPACT OF SMASHING INTO THE SIDE OF THE BUILDING KNOCKS THE WIND OUT OF HIM.
AUGH!

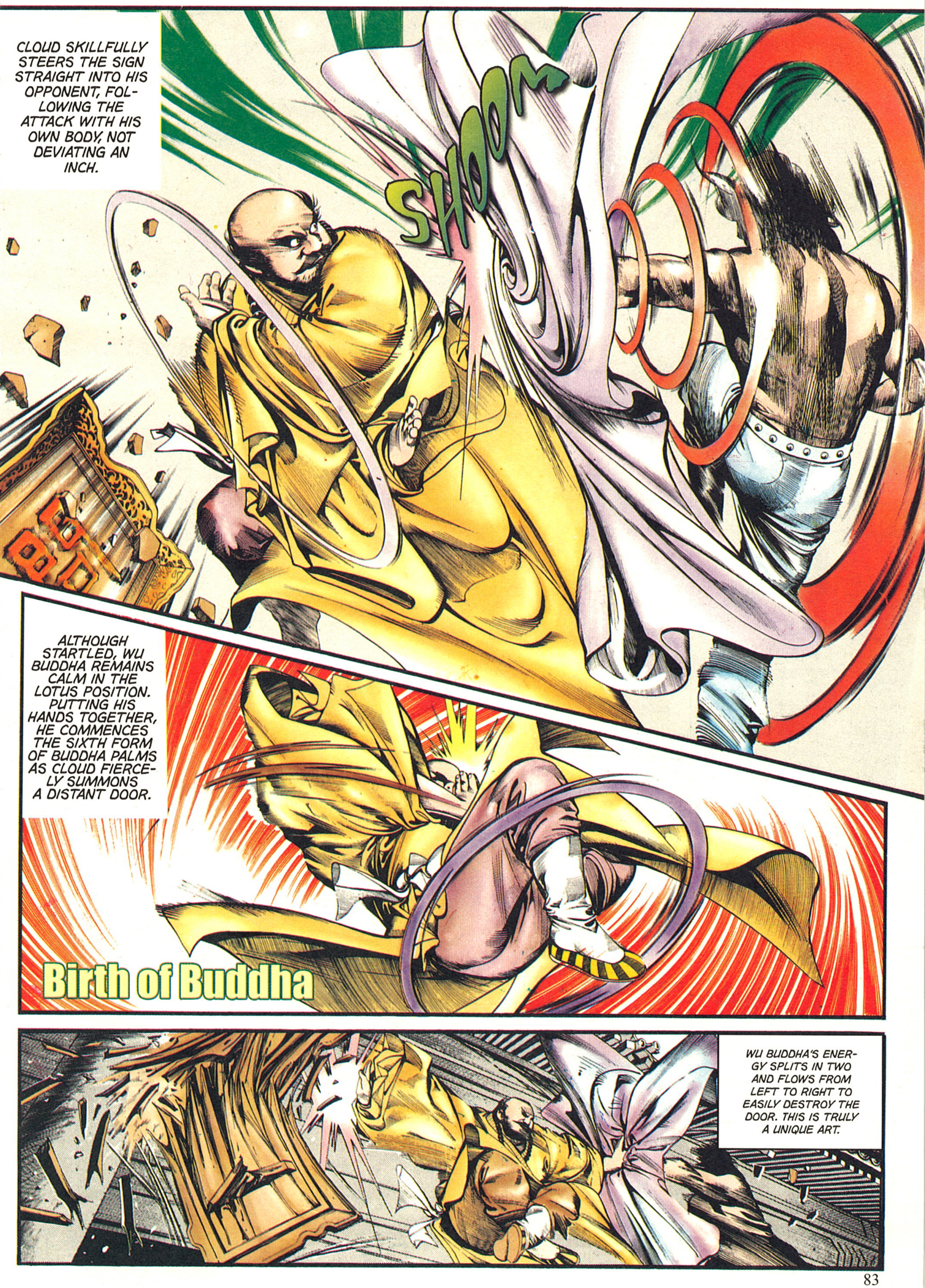

CLOUD'S MOMENTUM DESTROYS THE BRICKS IN THE CASTLE'S WALL AND THROWS ITS DEFENDERS CRASHING THROUGH THE WINDOWS. IT IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO STRIKE. WU BUDDHA FOLLOWS WITH PALMS PRESSED TOGETHER.

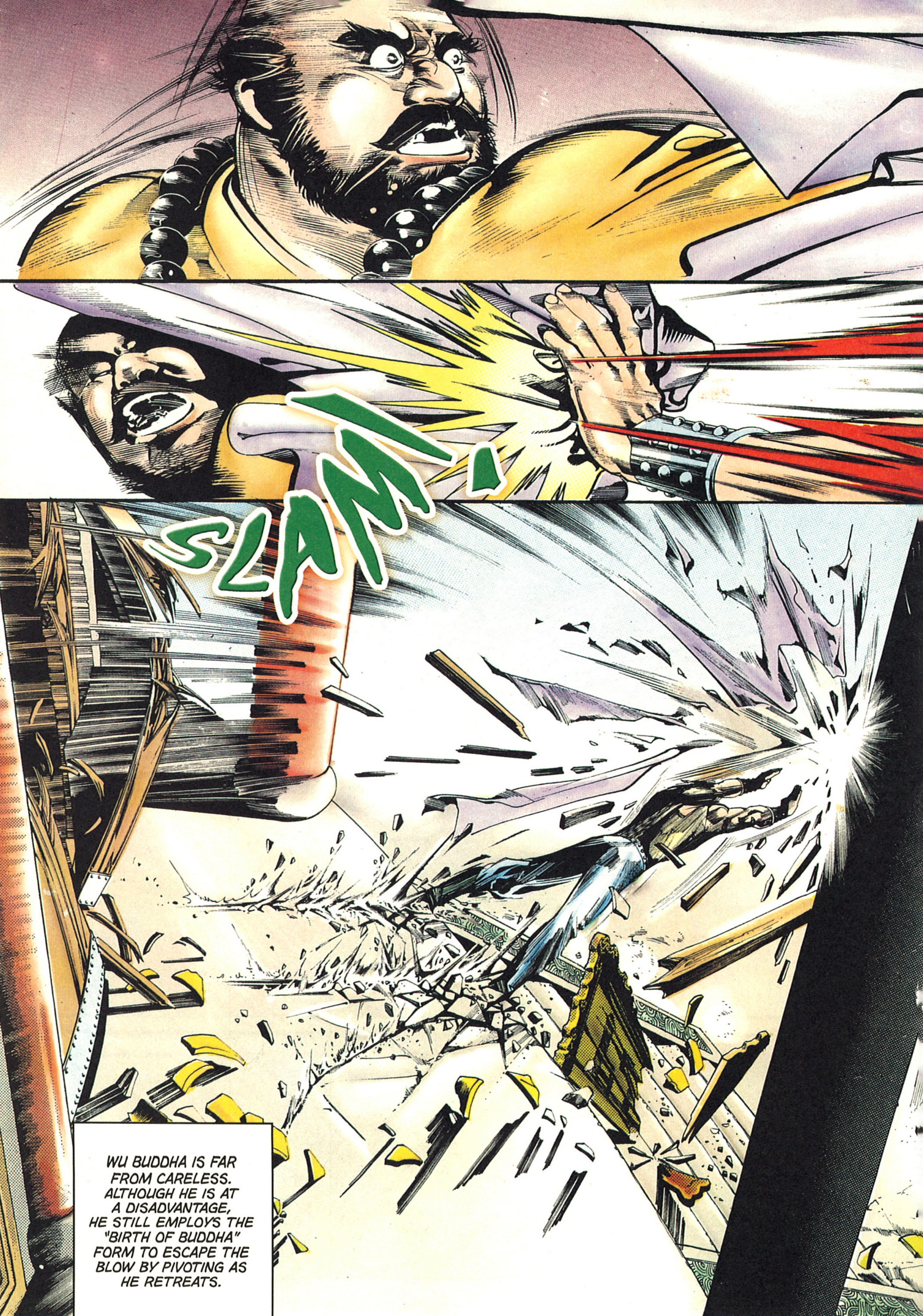

THE PALMS' ENERGY IS TRULY OVERWHELMING. CLOUD USES HIS BODY AS A SCREEN, DECEIVING WU WITH A FAKE IMAGE AS HIS REAL BODY SLIPS PAST.
FOURTH FORM
Glow of Buddhist Light
THAT BALD ASS'S PALM POWER IS FIERCE. IT'S NOT A GOOD IDEA TO OPPOSE HIM DIRECTLY.
AS ONE STRIKE FAILS, WU BUDDHA IMMEDIATELY SWITCHES TO ANOTHER HAND FORM, SUMMONING ENERGY FROM AFAR.
CLOUD'S CONFIDENCE RISES AND HE SWINGS HIS CAPE, BINDING WU BUDDHA'S HANDS.
HMM... THE FORCE OF MY REPELLING PALMS NEEDS TO BE TEMPERED WITH CAUTION. I WILL USE MY ILLUSION TECHNIQUE.
FIFTH FORM
Boundless Buddhism

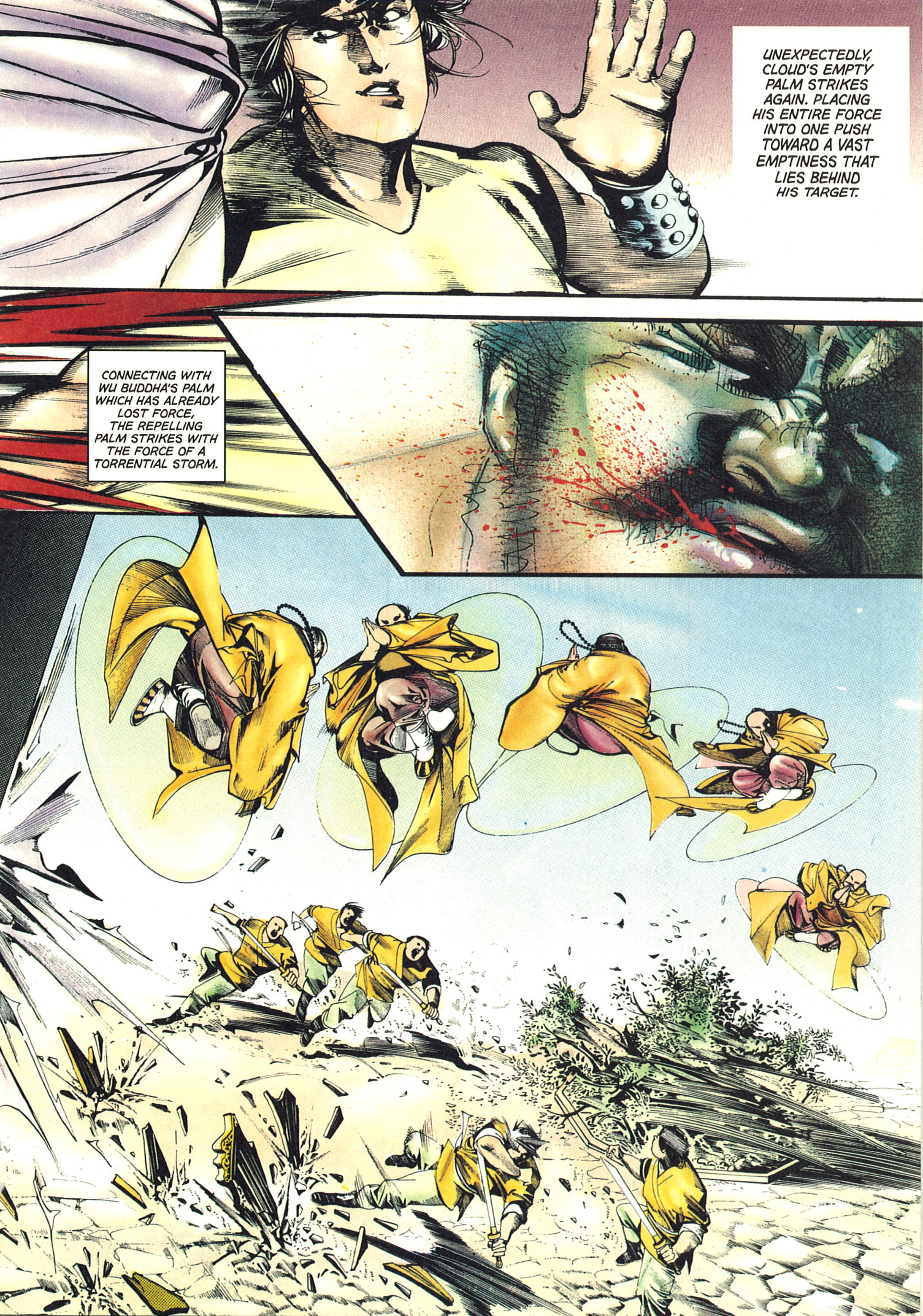

GAARH!
WITH BOTH HANDS BOUND, WU BUDDHA IS AMAZED AT HIS MISTAKE. HIS FRUSTRATION RISING, HE LONGS TO TEAR THE CAPE APART.
CLOUD IS QUICK TO REACT. HIS FINGERS BECOME A HOOK.
問政
ALTHOUGH THE BUDDHA PALMS ARE A POWER WITHOUT PEER, CLOUD'S SKILLFUL USE OF HIS OWN ENERGY IS ABLE TO TURN THE TIDE. HE SMOOTHLY SNAPS THE CLOAK OPEN, LEAVING WU BUDDHA COMPLETELY DISORIENTED WITH NO TARGET FOR HIS POWER.
CLOUD'S LEFT PALM RAPIDLY CHANGES DIRECTION AS HE CONTINUES HIS ATTACK.

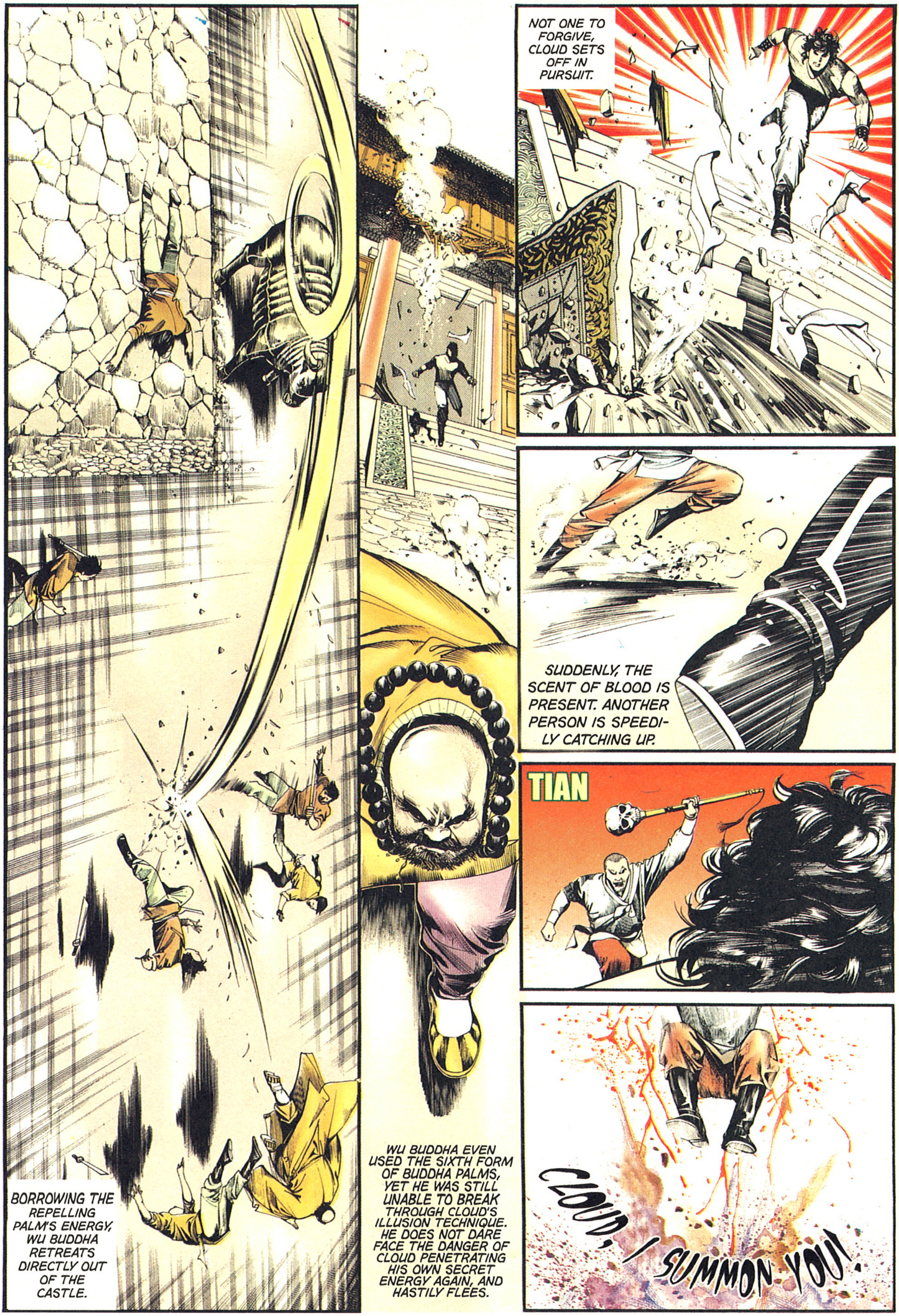

REPELLING PALM : Second Form
Covered By Clouds and Moon
CLOUD'S BODY MOVES AMAZINGLY FAST. IN A FLASH, HE HAS ALREADY SHIFTED TO THE LEFT, SURPRISING WU BUDDHA.
THE ENEMIES MOVE AS ONE. WU BUDDHA AGAIN EMPLOYS HIS "BOUNDLESS BUDDHISM" TECHNIQUE. PALMS CLASPED TOGETHER, HE CAN DESTROY ANYTHING HE MAKES CONTACT WITH. CLOUD HAS ALREADY FLOATED BACKWARDS.
問政堂
COURT OF JUSTICES
WITH A HIDDEN ENERGY, THE CAPE RELEASES THE SIGN. IT FLIES TOWARD WU BUDDHA.

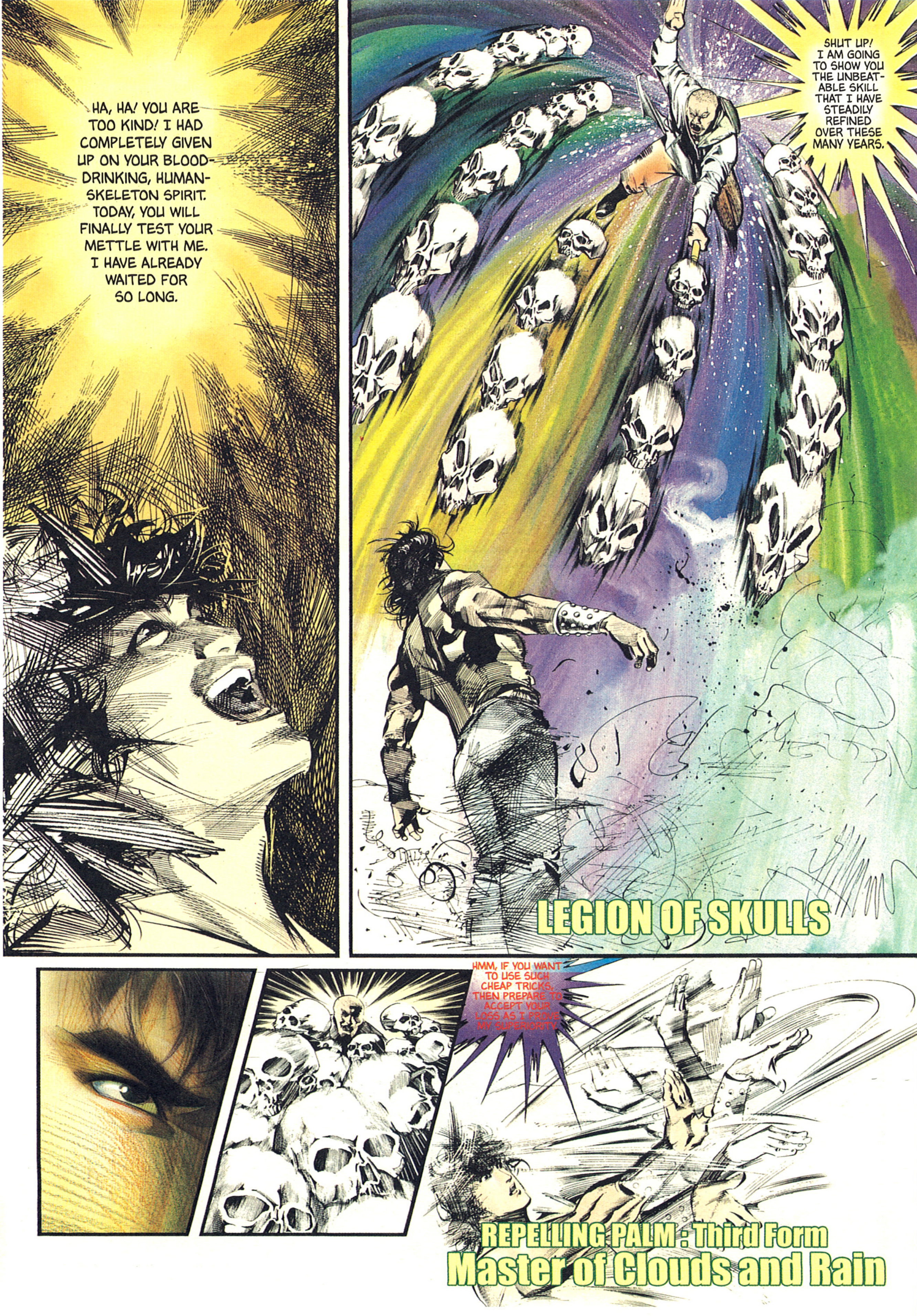
THE SIGN FALLS AND IS ARTFULLY CAPTURED BY THE CLOAK.

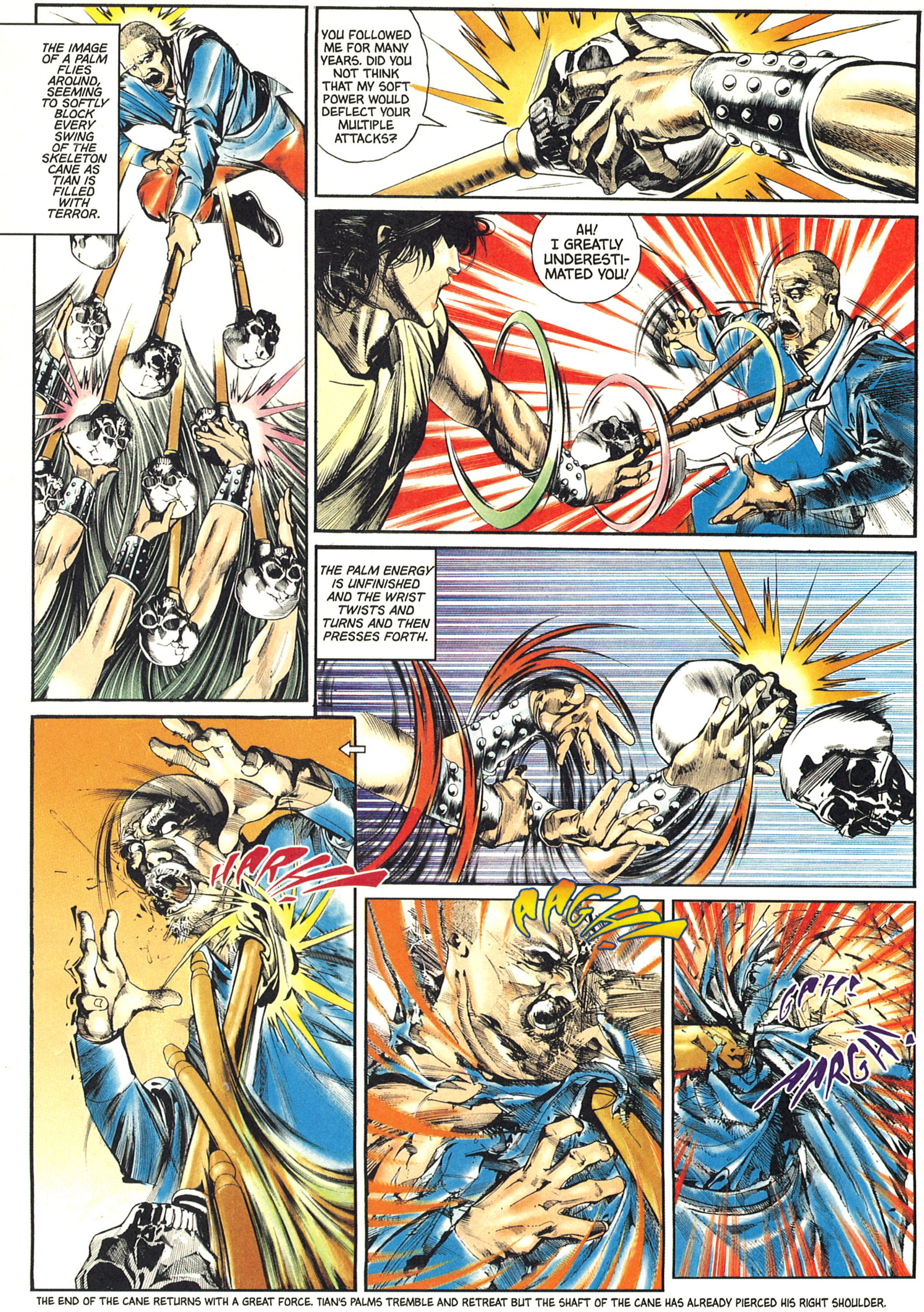

CLOUD SKILLFULLY STEERS THE SIGN STRAIGHT INTO HIS OPPONENT, FOLLOWING THE ATTACK WITH HIS OWN BODY, NOT DEVIATING AN INCH.
SHOOM
ALTHOUGH STARTLED, WU BUDDHA REMAINS CALM IN THE LOTUS POSITION. PUTTING HIS HANDS TOGETHER, HE COMMENCES THE SIXTH FORM OF BUDDHA PALMS AS CLOUD FIERCELY SUMMONS A DISTANT DOOR.
Birth of Buddha
WU BUDDHA'S ENERGY SPLITS IN TWO AND FLOWS FROM LEFT TO RIGHT TO EASILY DESTROY THE DOOR. THIS IS TRULY A UNIQUE ART.


SLAM!
WU BUDDHA IS FAR FROM CARELESS. ALTHOUGH HE IS AT A DISADVANTAGE, HE STILL EMPLOYS THE "BIRTH OF BUDDHA" FORM TO ESCAPE THE BLOW BY PIVOTING AS HE RETREATS.

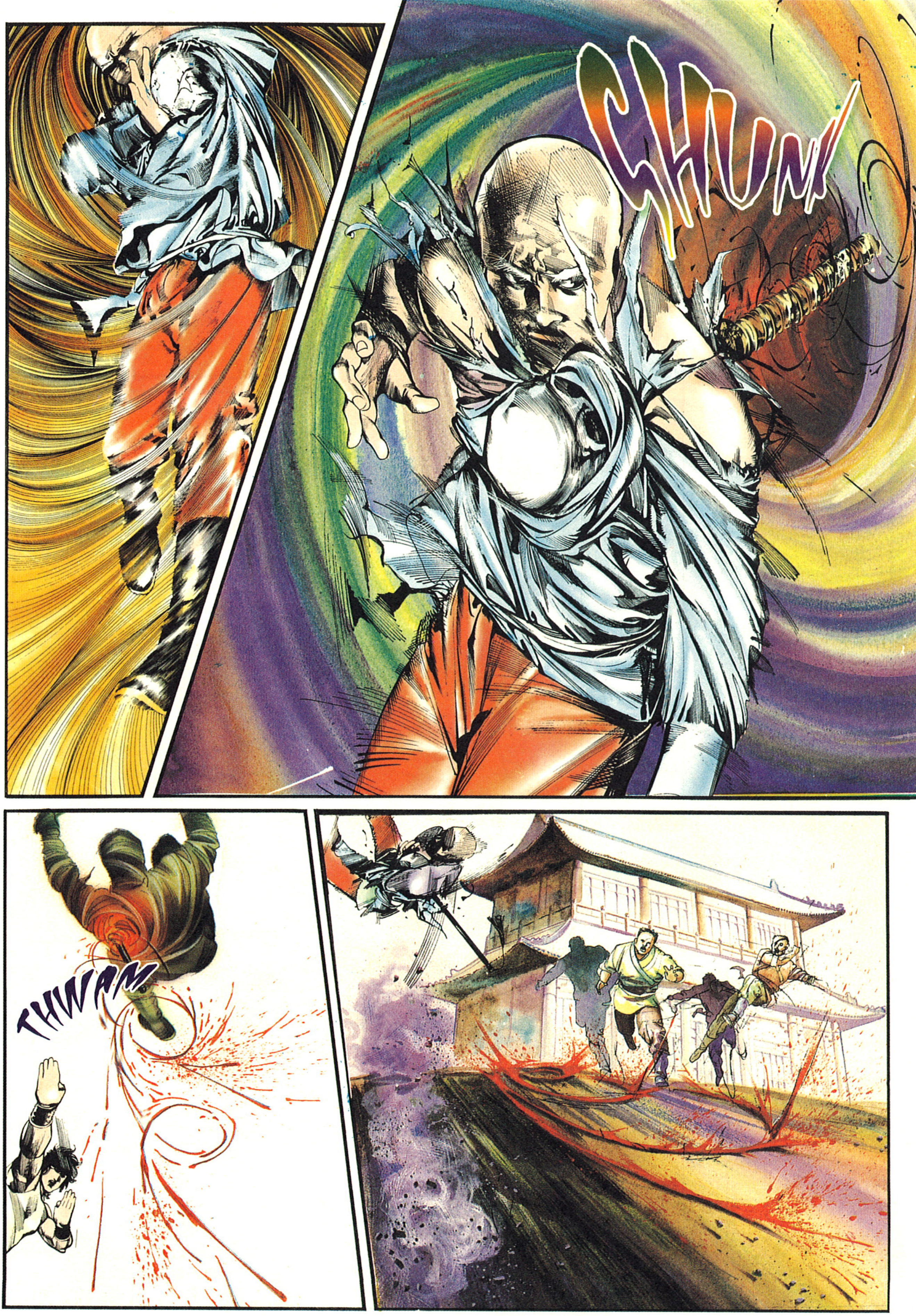

UNEXPECTEDLY, CLOUD'S EMPTY PALM STRIKES AGAIN. PLACING HIS ENTIRE FORCE INTO ONE PUSH TOWARD A VAST EMPTINESS THAT LIES BEHIND HIS TARGET.
CONNECTING WITH WU BUDDHA'S PALM WHICH HAS ALREADY LOST FORCE, THE REPELLING PALM STRIKES WITH THE FORCE OF A TORRENTIAL STORM.

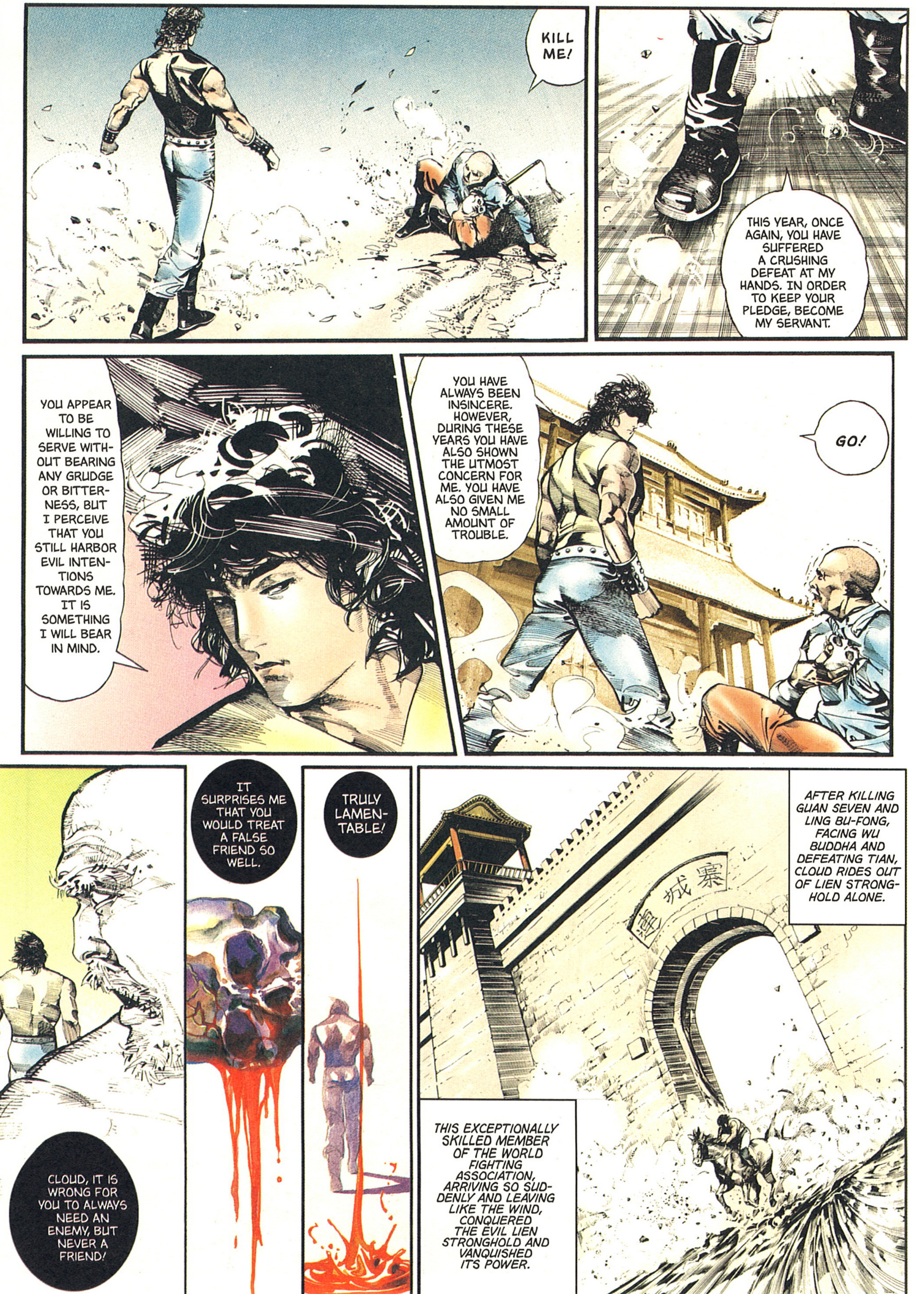

BORROWING THE REPELLING PALM'S ENERGY, WU BUDDHA RETREATS DIRECTLY OUT OF THE CASTLE.
WU BUDDHA EVEN USED THE SIXTH FORM OF BUDDHA PALMS, YET HE WAS STILL UNABLE TO BREAK THROUGH CLOUD'S ILLUSION TECHNIQUE. HE DOES NOT DARE FACE THE DANGER OF CLOUD PENETRATING HIS OWN SECRET ENERGY AGAIN, AND HASTILY FLEES.
NOT ONE TO FORGIVE, CLOUD SETS OFF IN PURSUIT.
SUDDENLY, THE SCENT OF BLOOD IS PRESENT. ANOTHER PERSON IS SPEEDILY CATCHING UP.
TIAN
CLOUD, I SUMMON YOU!

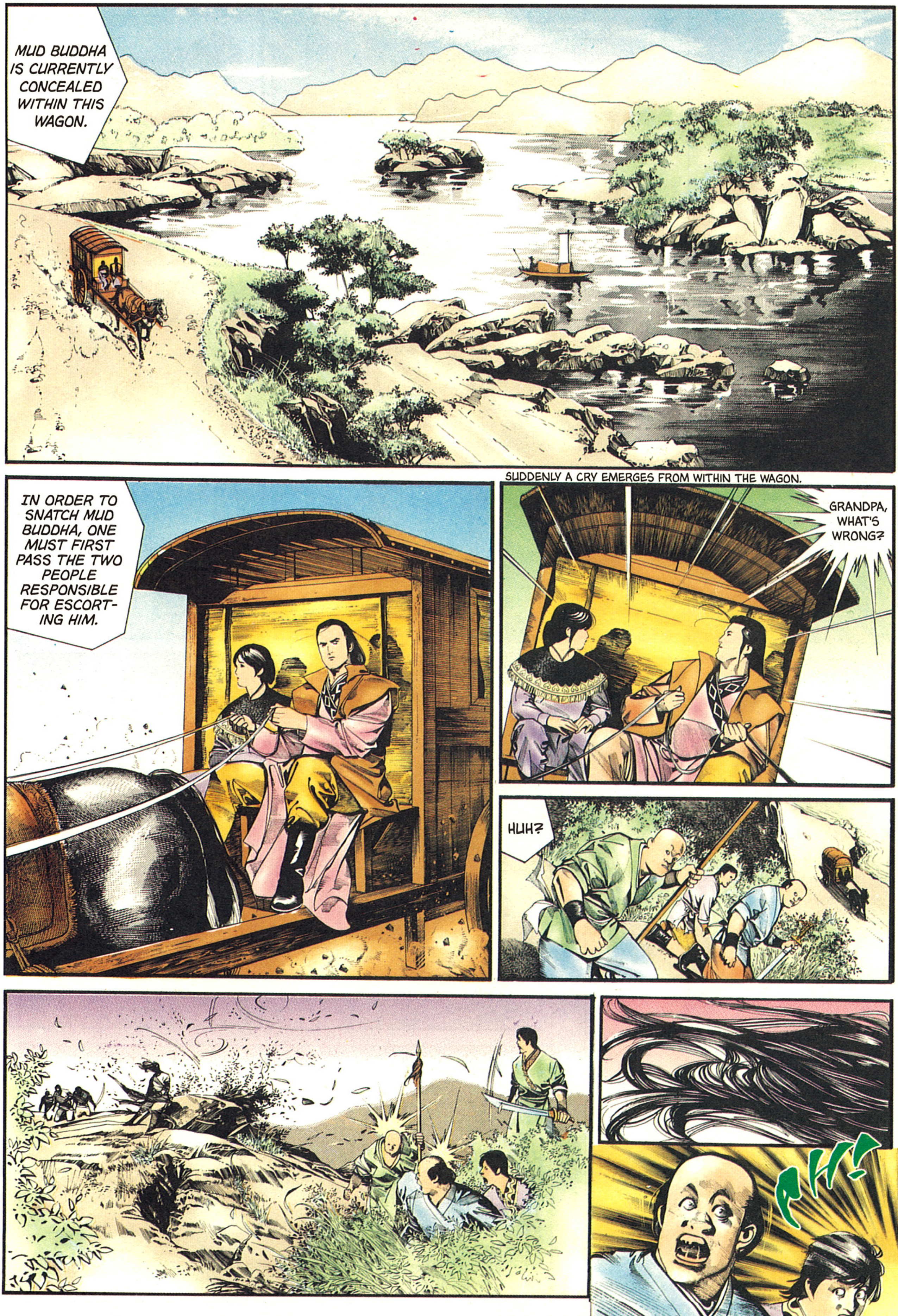

HA, HA! YOU ARE TOO KIND! I HAD COMPLETELY GIVEN UP ON YOUR BLOOD-DRINKING, HUMAN-SKELETON SPIRIT. TODAY, YOU WILL FINALLY TEST YOUR METTLE WITH ME. I HAVE ALREADY WAITED FOR SO LONG.
SHUT UP! I AM GOING TO SHOW YOU THE UNBEATABLE SKILL THAT I HAVE STEADILY REFINED OVER THESE MANY YEARS.
LEGION OF SKULLS
HMM, IF YOU WANT TO USE SUCH CHEAP TRICKS, THEN PREPARE TO ACCEPT YOUR LOSS AS I PROVE MY SUPERIORITY.
REPELLING PALM : Third Form
Master of Clouds and Rain


THE IMAGE OF A PALM FLIES AROUND, SEEMING TO SOFTLY BLOCK EVERY SWING OF THE SKELETON CANE AS TIAN IS FILLED WITH TERROR.
YOU FOLLOWED ME FOR MANY YEARS. DID YOU NOT THINK THAT MY SOFT POWER WOULD DEFLECT YOUR MULTIPLE ATTACKS?
AH! I GREATLY UNDERESTIMATED YOU!
THE PALM ENERGY IS UNFINISHED AND THE WRIST TWISTS AND TURNS AND THEN PRESSES FORTH.
HARK!
AAGH!
GAH!
AARGH!

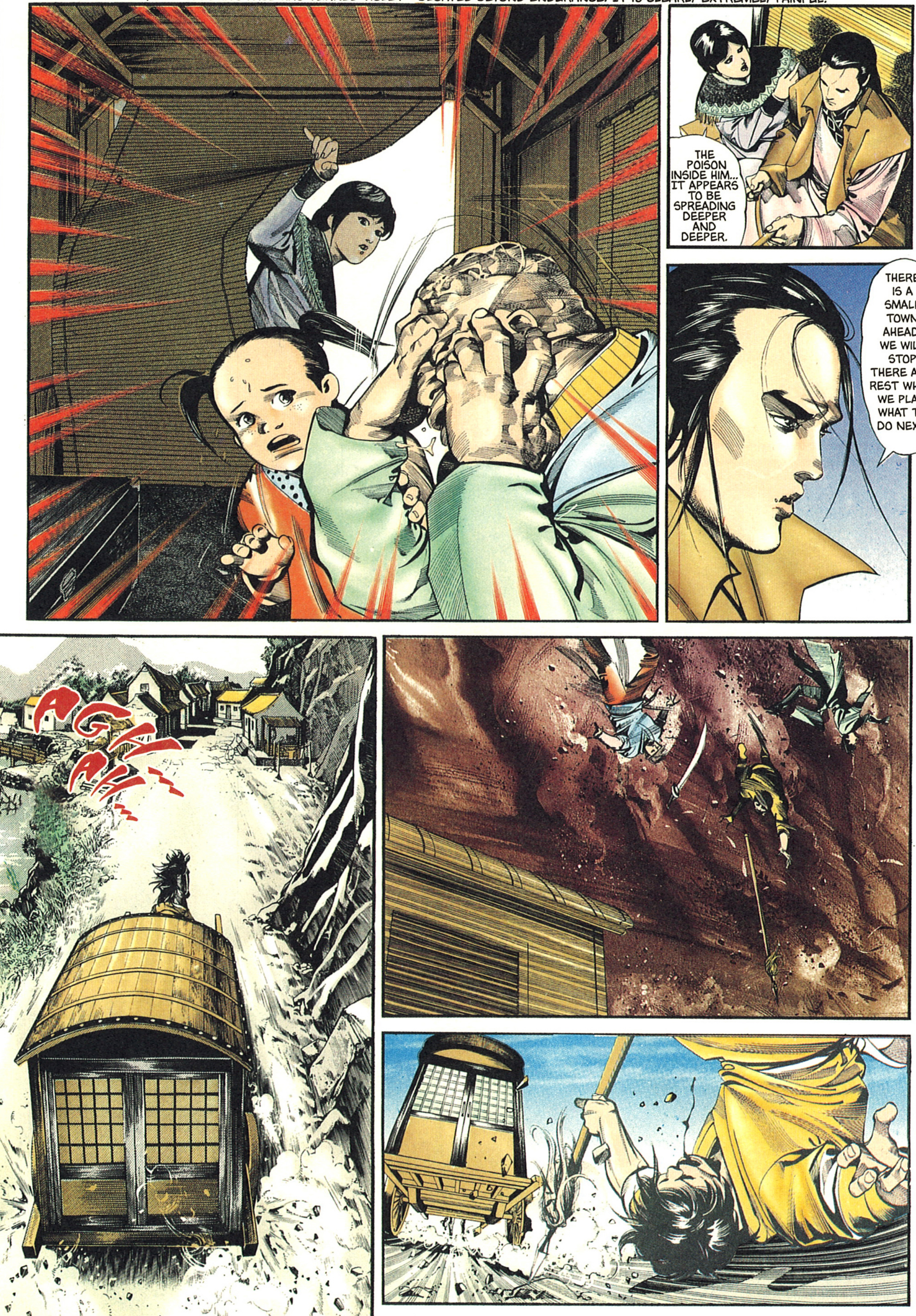
THE END OF THE CANE RETURNS WITH A GREAT FORCE. TIAN'S PALMS TREMBLE AND RETREAT BUT THE SHAFT OF THE CANE HAS ALREADY PIERCED HIS RIGHT SHOULDER.

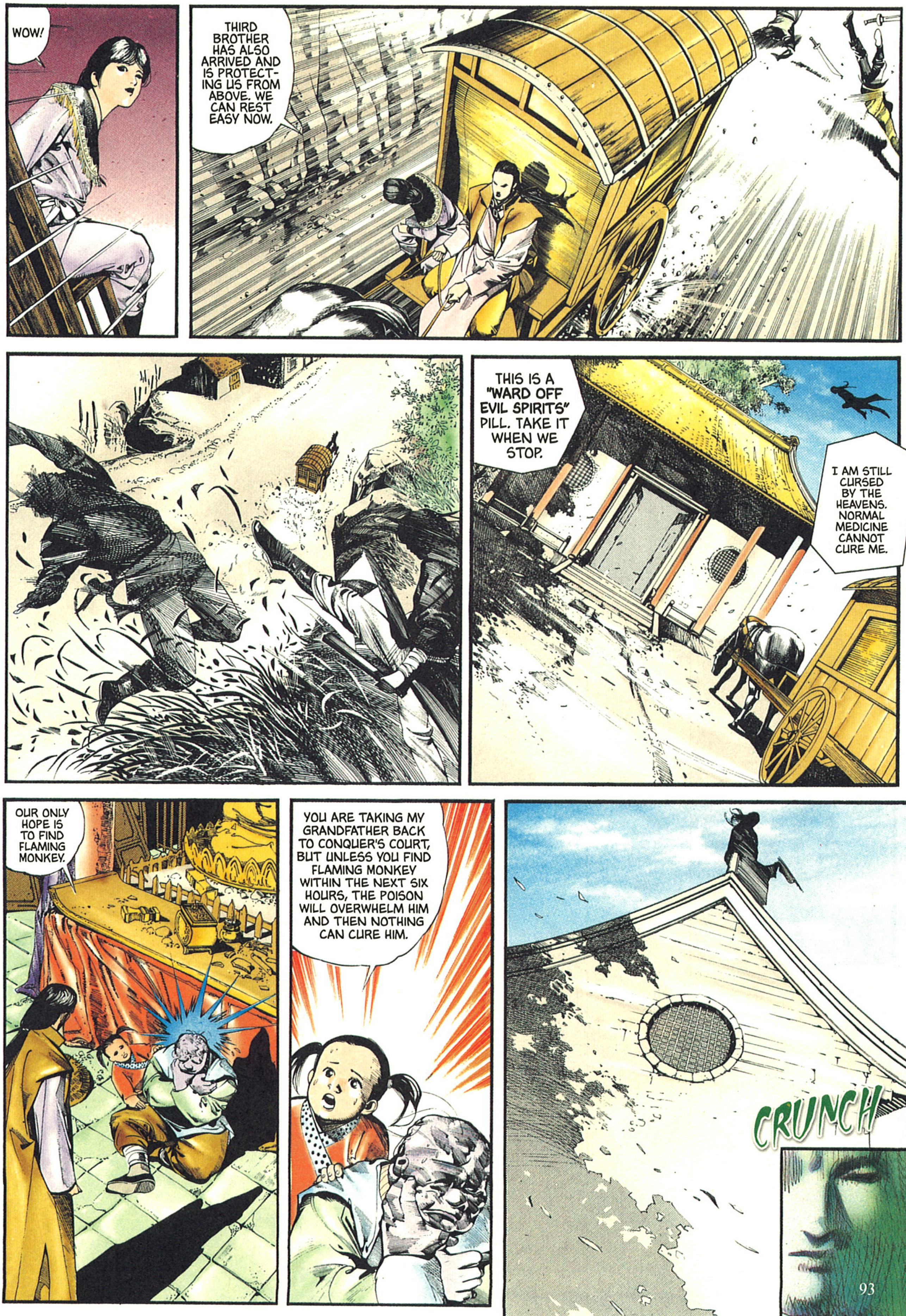

CHUNK
THWAM

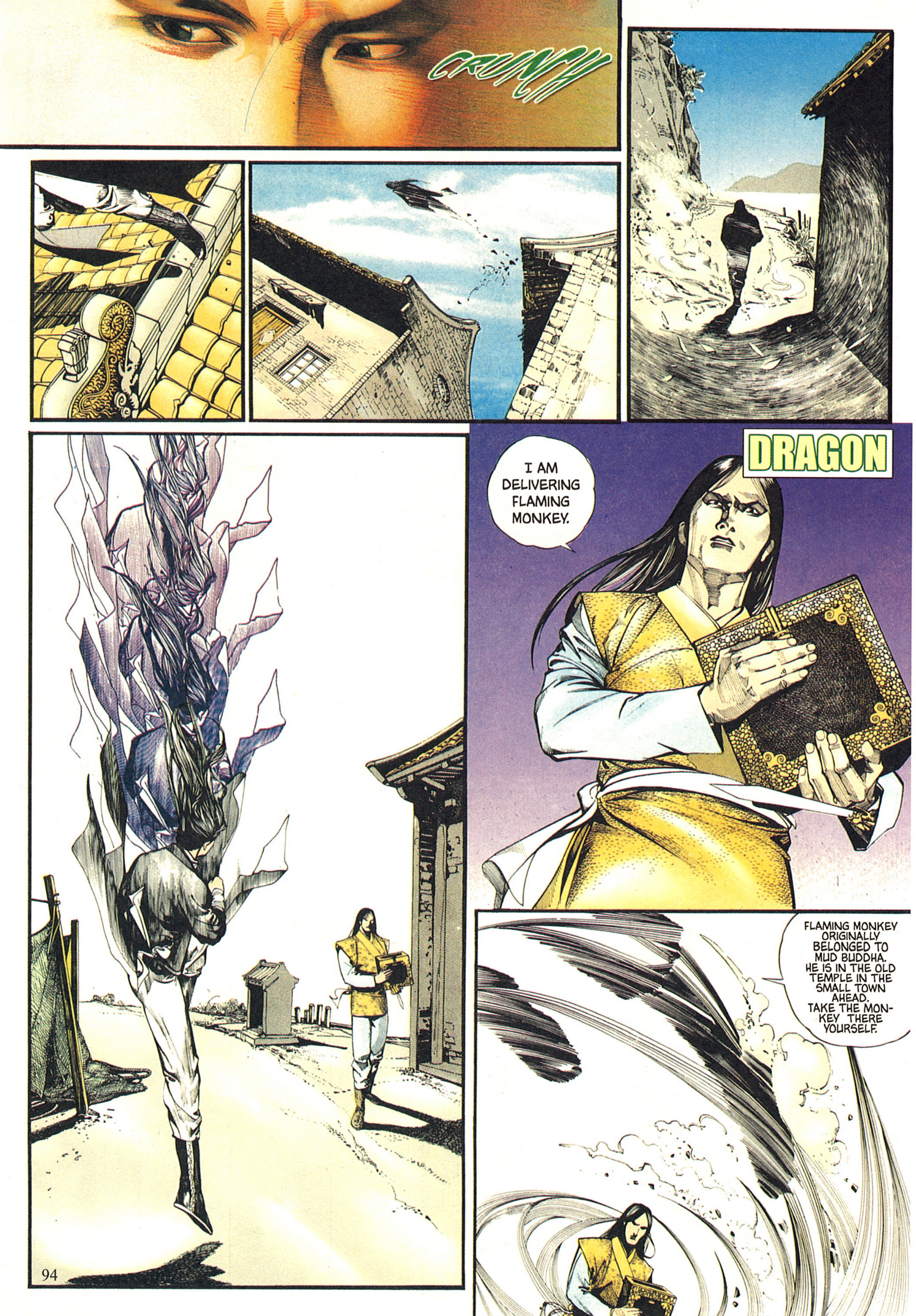

KILL ME!
THIS YEAR, ONCE AGAIN, YOU HAVE SUFFERED A CRUSHING DEFEAT AT MY HANDS. IN ORDER TO KEEP YOUR PLEDGE, BECOME MY SERVANT.
YOU APPEAR TO BE WILLING TO SERVE WITHOUT BEARING ANY GRUDGE OR BITTERNESS, BUT I PERCEIVE THAT YOU STILL HARBOR EVIL INTENTIONS TOWARDS ME. IT IS SOMETHING I WILL BEAR IN MIND.
YOU HAVE ALWAYS BEEN INSINCERE. HOWEVER, DURING THESE YEARS YOU HAVE ALSO SHOWN THE UTMOST CONCERN FOR ME. YOU HAVE ALSO GIVEN ME NO SMALL AMOUNT OF TROUBLE.
GO!
CLOUD, IT IS WRONG FOR YOU TO ALWAYS NEED AN ENEMY, BUT NEVER A FRIEND!
IT SURPRISES ME THAT YOU WOULD TREAT A FALSE FRIEND SO WELL.
TRULY LAMENTABLE!
AFTER KILLING GUAN SEVEN AND LING BU-FONG, FACING WU BUDDHA AND DEFEATING TIAN, CLOUD RIDES OUT OF LIEN STRONGHOLD ALONE.
連城寨
THIS EXCEPTIONALLY SKILLED MEMBER OF THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION, ARRIVING SO SUDDENLY AND LEAVING LIKE THE WIND, CONQUERED THE EVIL LIEN STRONGHOLD AND VANQUISHED ITS POWER.

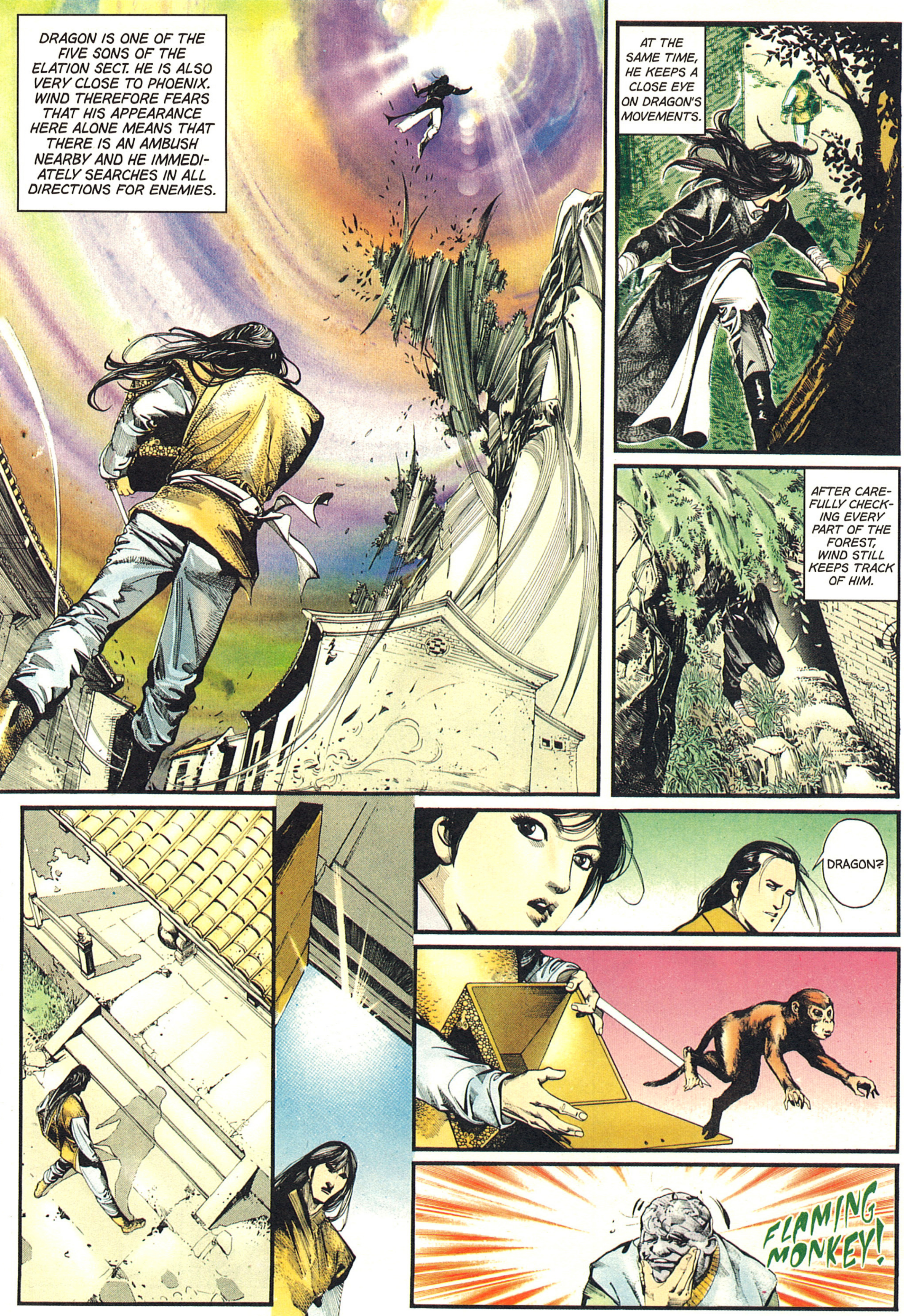

MUD BUDDHA IS CURRENTLY CONCEALED WITHIN THIS WAGON.
IN ORDER TO SNATCH MUD BUDDHA, ONE MUST FIRST PASS THE TWO PEOPLE RESPONSIBLE FOR ESCORTING HIM.
SUDDENLY A CRY EMERGES FROM WITHIN THE WAGON.
GRANDPA, WHAT'S WRONG?
HUH?
AH!

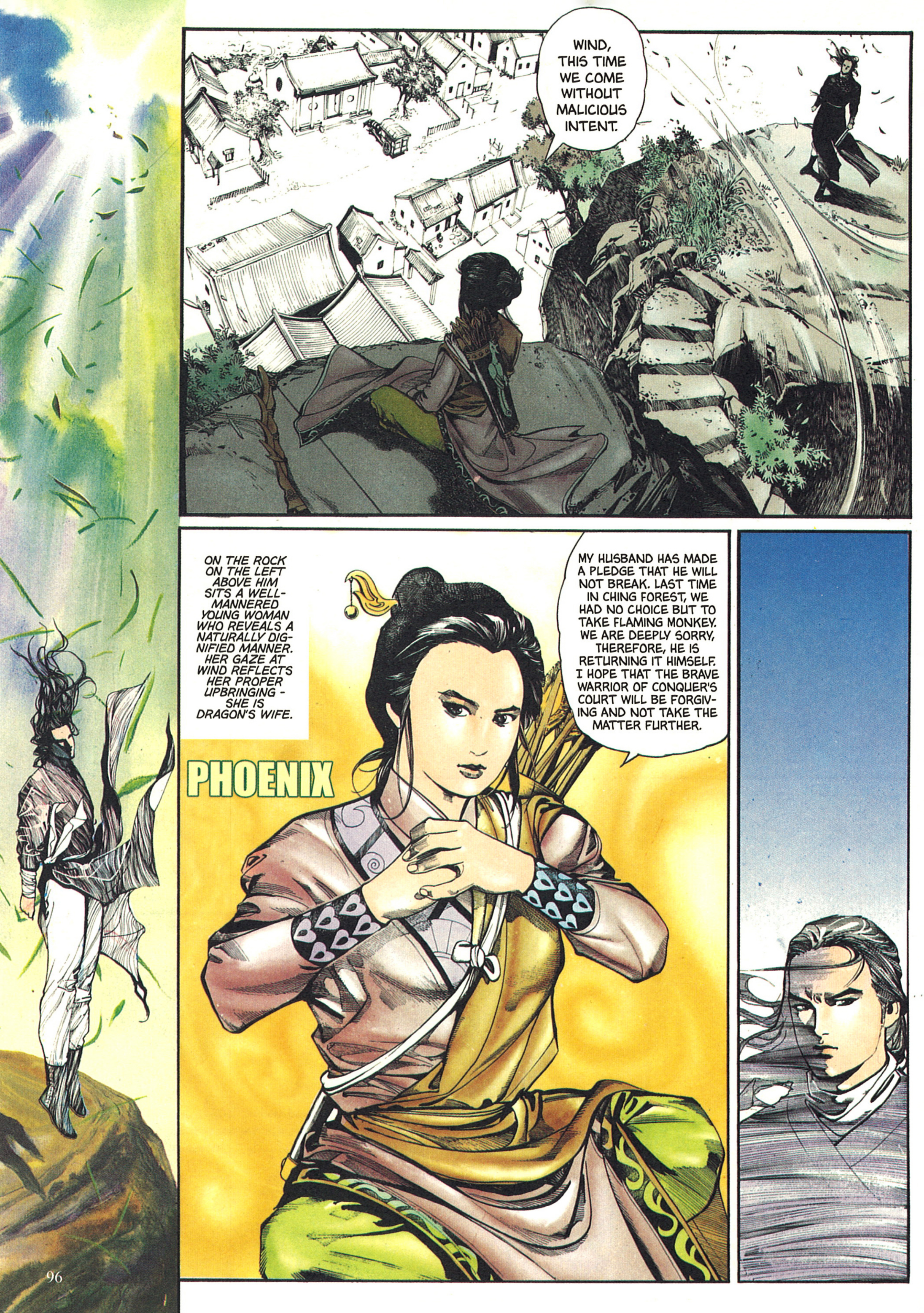
INSIDE THE CABIN, MUD BUDDHA'S FACE HAS TURNED VIOLET - BLOATED BEYOND ENDURANCE. IT IS CLEARLY EXTREMELY PAINFUL.

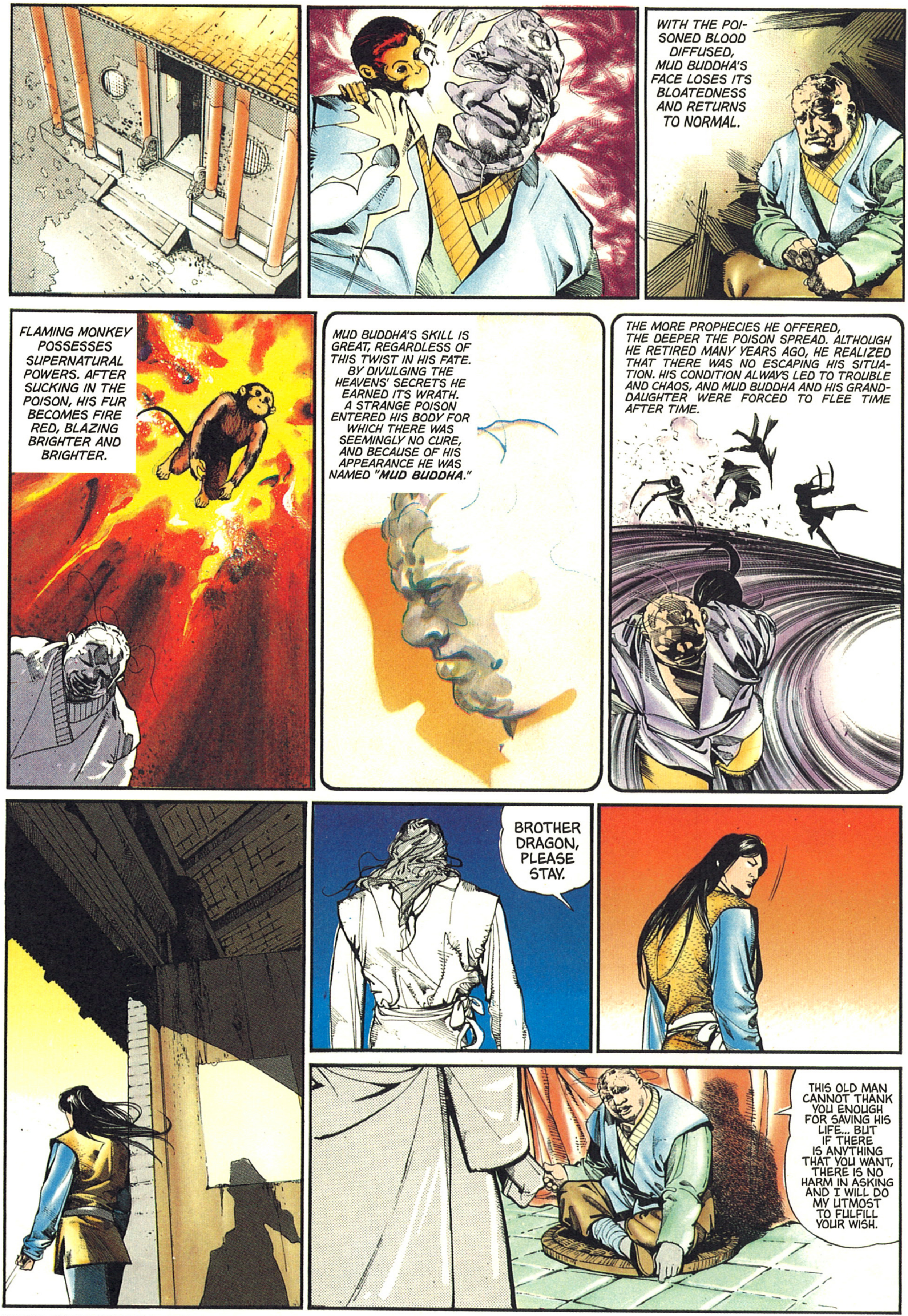

THE POISON INSIDE HIM... IT APPEARS TO BE SPREADING DEEPER AND DEEPER.
THERE IS A SMALL TOWN AHEAD. WE WILL STOP THERE AND REST WHILE WE PLAN WHAT TO DO NEXT.
AGHAAH...


WOW!
THIRD BROTHER HAS ALSO ARRIVED AND IS PROTECTING US FROM ABOVE. WE CAN REST EASY NOW.
THIS IS A "WARD OFF EVIL SPIRITS" PILL. TAKE IT WHEN WE STOP.
I AM STILL CURSED BY THE HEAVENS. NORMAL MEDICINE CANNOT CURE ME.
OUR ONLY HOPE IS TO FIND FLAMING MONKEY.
YOU ARE TAKING MY GRANDFATHER BACK TO CONQUER'S COURT, BUT UNLESS YOU FIND FLAMING MONKEY WITHIN THE NEXT SIX HOURS, THE POISON WILL OVERWHELM HIM AND THEN NOTHING CAN CURE HIM.
CRUNCH

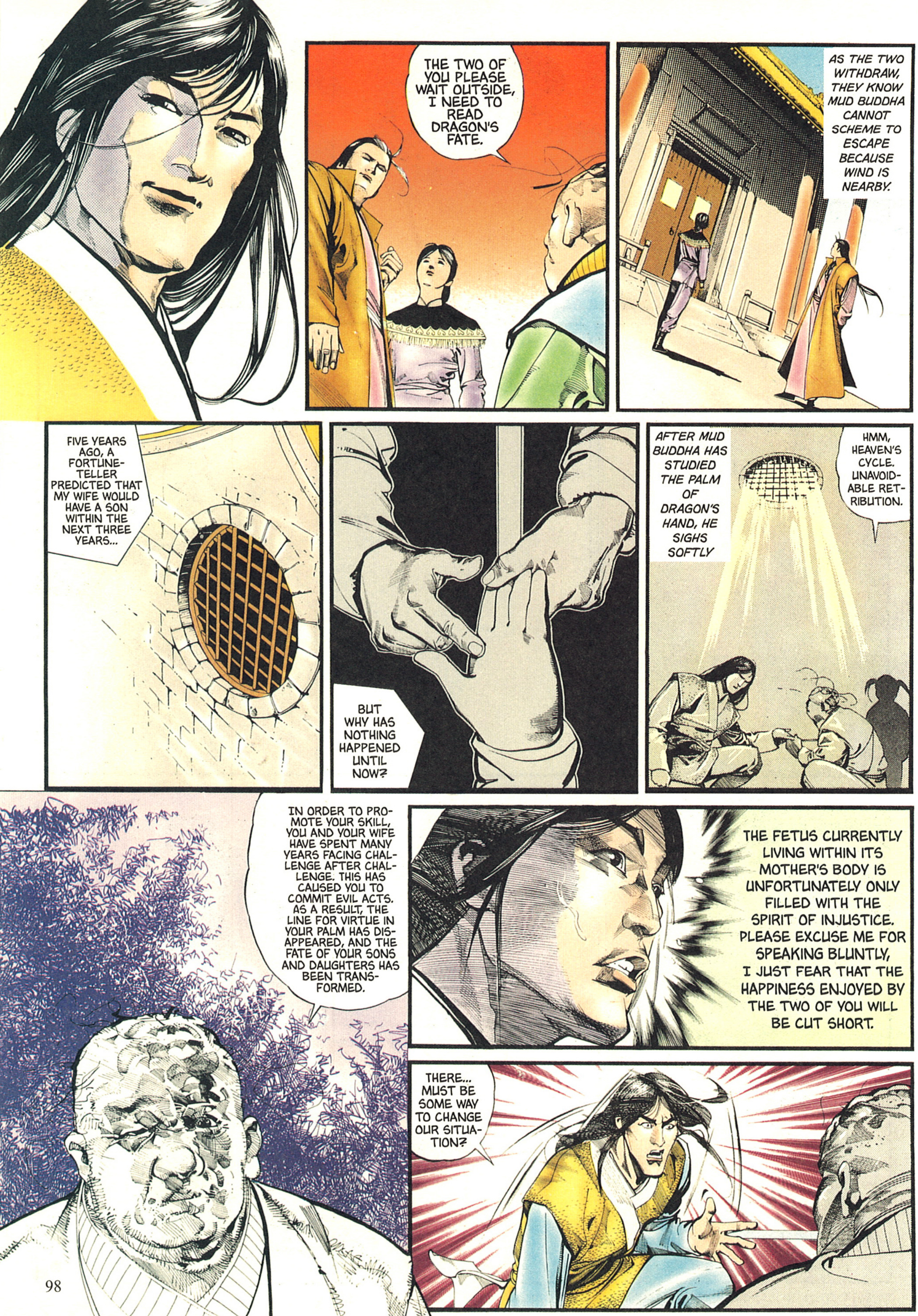

CRUNCH
DRAGON
I AM DELIVERING FLAMING MONKEY.
FLAMING MONKEY ORIGINALLY BELONGED TO MUD BUDDHA. HE IS IN THE OLD TEMPLE IN THE SMALL TOWN AHEAD. TAKE THE MONKEY THERE YOURSELF.

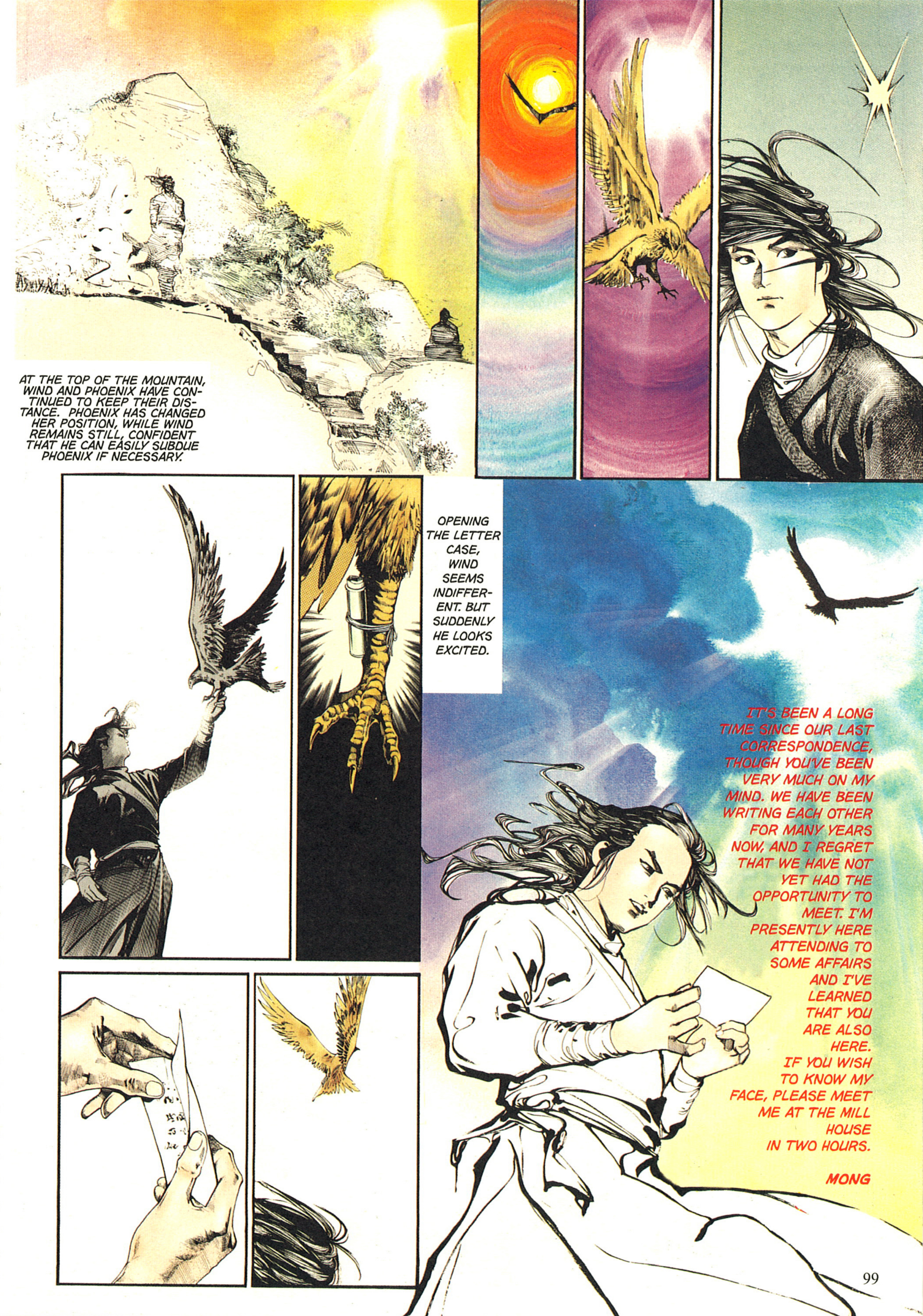

DRAGON IS ONE OF THE FIVE SONS OF THE ELATION SECT. HE IS ALSO VERY CLOSE TO PHOENIX. WIND THEREFORE FEARS THAT HIS APPEARANCE HERE ALONE MEANS THAT THERE IS AN AMBUSH NEARBY AND HE IMMEDIATELY SEARCHES IN ALL DIRECTIONS FOR ENEMIES.
AT THE SAME TIME, HE KEEPS A CLOSE EYE ON DRAGON'S MOVEMENTS.
AFTER CAREFULLY CHECKING EVERY PART OF THE FOREST, WIND STILL KEEPS TRACK OF HIM.
DRAGON?
FLAMING MONKEY!

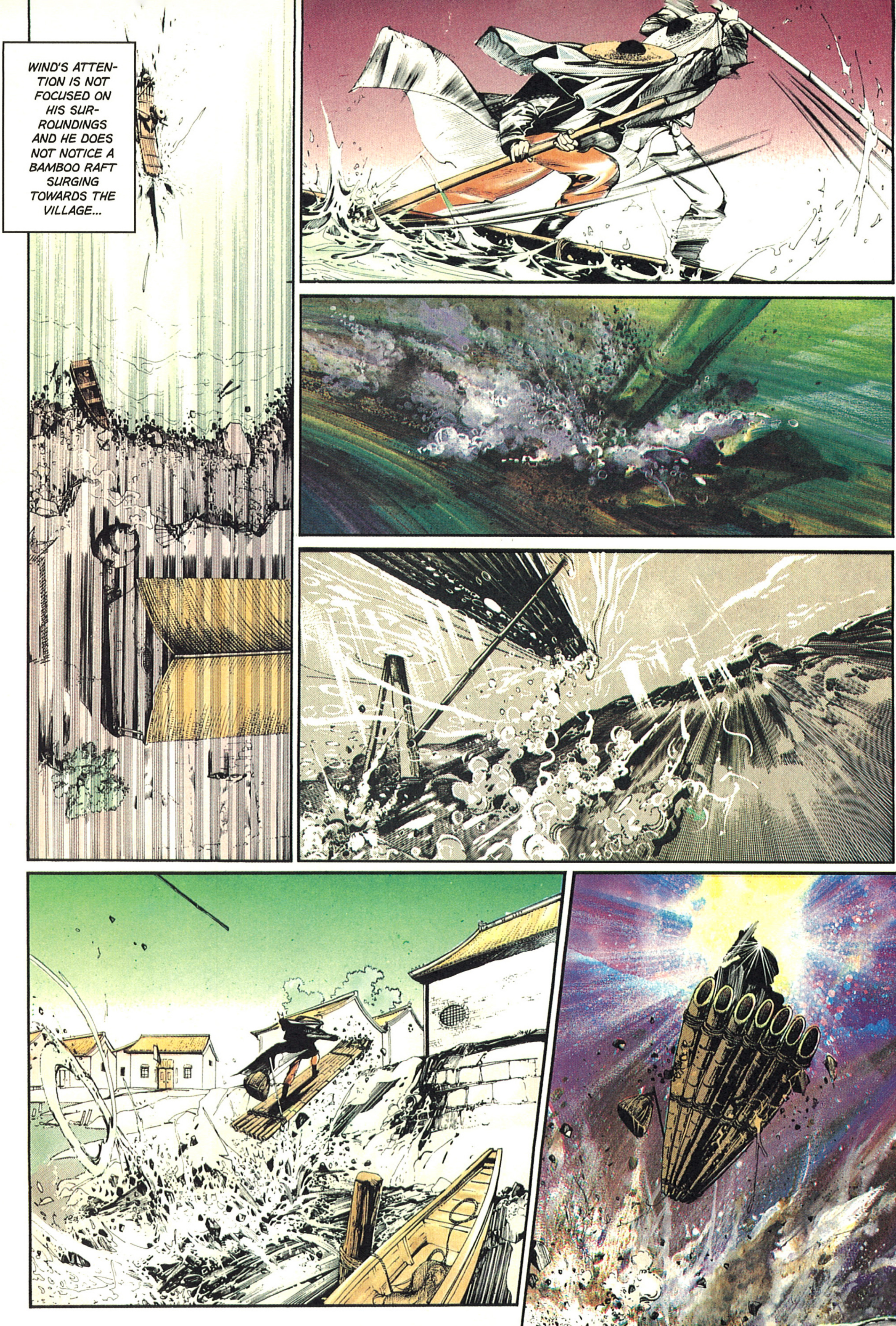

WIND, THIS TIME WE COME WITHOUT MALICIOUS INTENT.
ON THE ROCK ON THE LEFT ABOVE HIM SITS A WELL-MANNERED YOUNG WOMAN WHO REVEALS A NATURALLY DIGNIFIED MANNER. HER GAZE AT WIND REFLECTS HER PROPER UPBRINGING - SHE IS DRAGON'S WIFE.
PHOENIX
MY HUSBAND HAS MADE A PLEDGE THAT HE WILL NOT BREAK. LAST TIME IN CHING FOREST, WE HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO TAKE FLAMING MONKEY. WE ARE DEEPLY SORRY, THEREFORE, HE IS RETURNING IT HIMSELF. I HOPE THAT THE BRAVE WARRIOR OF CONQUER'S COURT WILL BE FORGIVING AND NOT TAKE THE MATTER FURTHER.

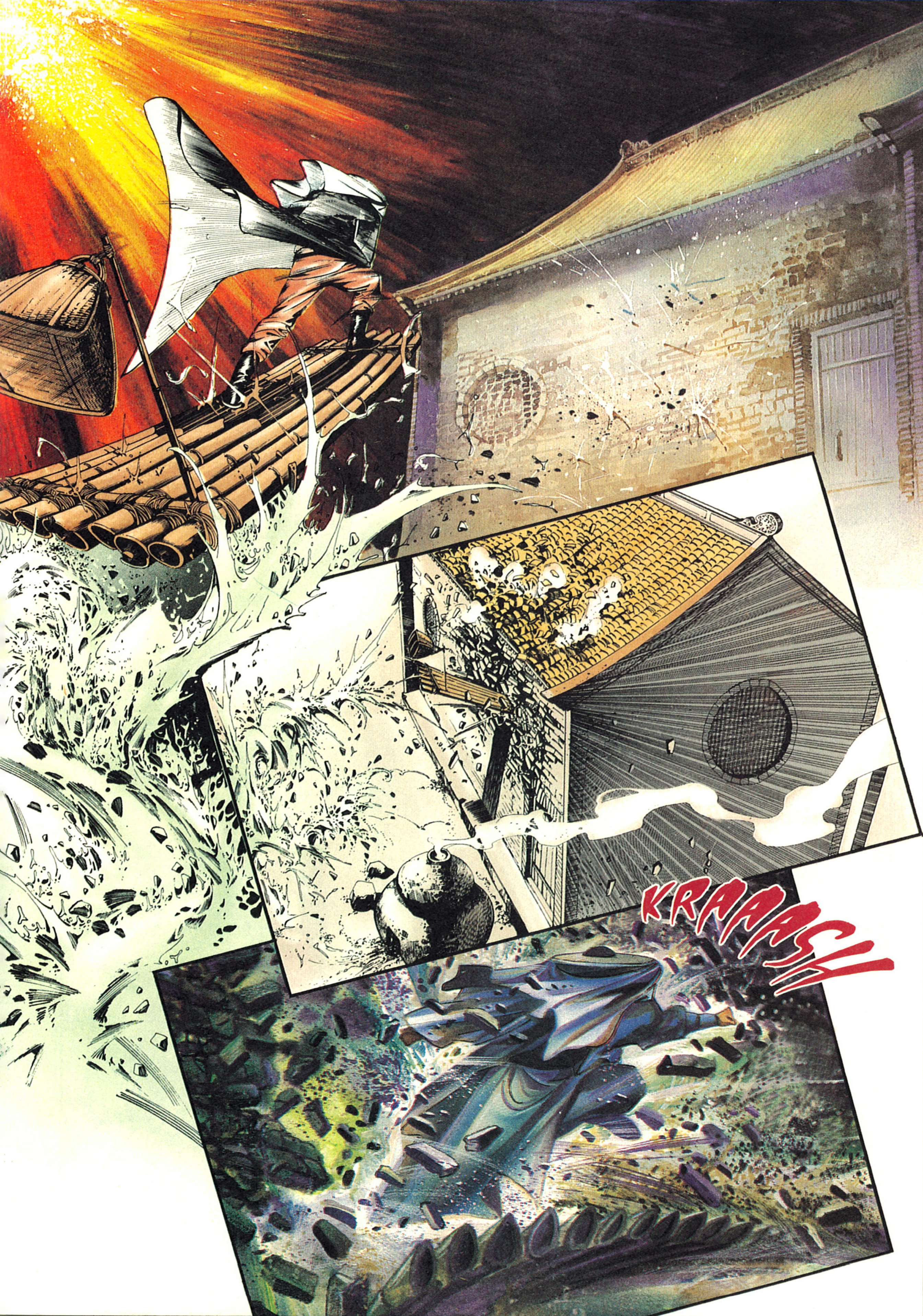

WITH THE POISONED BLOOD DIFFUSED, MUD BUDDHA'S FACE LOSES ITS BLOATEDNESS AND RETURNS TO NORMAL.
FLAMING MONKEY POSSESSES SUPERNATURAL POWERS. AFTER SUCKING IN THE POISON, HIS FUR BECOMES FIRE RED, BLAZING BRIGHTER AND BRIGHTER.
MUD BUDDHA'S SKILL IS GREAT, REGARDLESS OF THIS TWIST IN HIS FATE. BY DIVULGING THE HEAVENS' SECRETS HE EARNED ITS WRATH. A STRANGE POISON ENTERED HIS BODY FOR WHICH THERE WAS SEEMINGLY NO CURE, AND BECAUSE OF HIS APPEARANCE HE WAS NAMED "**MUD BUDDHA**."
THE MORE PROPHECIES HE OFFERED, THE DEEPER THE POISON SPREAD. ALTHOUGH HE RETIRED MANY YEARS AGO, HE REALIZED THAT THERE WAS NO ESCAPING HIS SITUATION. HIS CONDITION ALWAYS LED TO TROUBLE AND CHAOS, AND MUD BUDDHA AND HIS GRANDDAUGHTER WERE FORCED TO FLEE TIME AFTER TIME.
BROTHER DRAGON, PLEASE STAY.
THIS OLD MAN CANNOT THANK YOU ENOUGH FOR SAVING HIS LIFE... BUT IF THERE IS ANYTHING THAT YOU WANT, THERE IS NO HARM IN ASKING AND I WILL DO MY UTMOST TO FULFILL YOUR WISH.

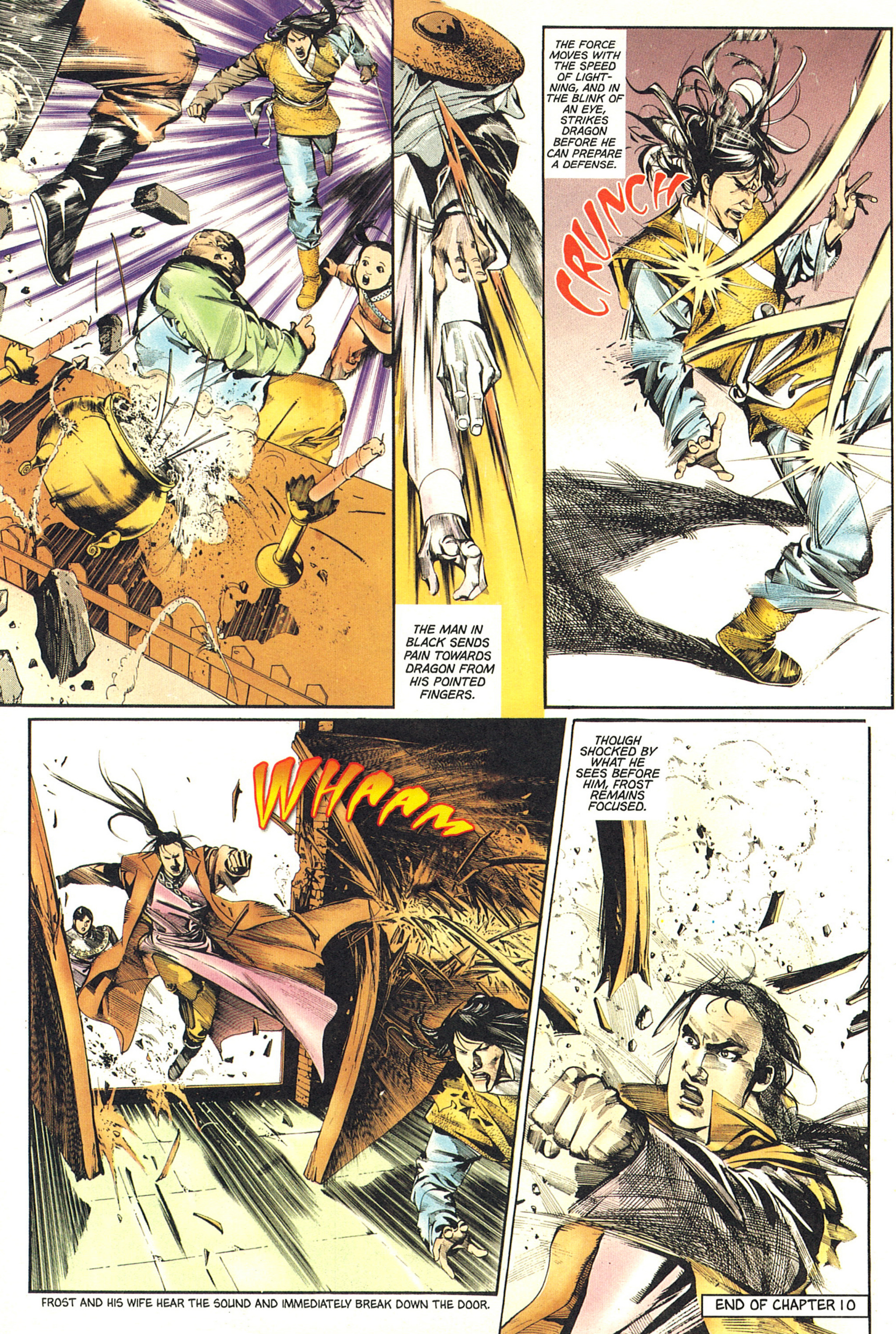
HAVING RETURNED FLAMING MONKEY, DRAGON DOES NOT UTTER A WORD AND TURNS TO LEAVE.


THE TWO OF YOU PLEASE WAIT OUTSIDE, I NEED TO READ DRAGON'S FATE.
AS THE TWO WITHDRAW, THEY KNOW MUD BUDDHA CANNOT SCHEME TO ESCAPE BECAUSE WIND IS NEARBY.
FIVE YEARS AGO, A FORTUNE-TELLER PREDICTED THAT MY WIFE WOULD HAVE A SON WITHIN THE NEXT THREE YEARS...
BUT WHY HAS NOTHING HAPPENED UNTIL NOW?
AFTER MUD BUDDHA HAS STUDIED THE PALM OF DRAGON'S HAND, HE SIGHS SOFTLY
HMM, HEAVEN'S CYCLE. UNAVOIDABLE RETRIBUTION.
IN ORDER TO PROMOTE YOUR SKILL, YOU AND YOUR WIFE HAVE SPENT MANY YEARS FACING CHALLENGE AFTER CHALLENGE. THIS HAS CAUSED YOU TO COMMIT EVIL ACTS. AS A RESULT, THE LINE FOR VIRTUE IN YOUR PALM HAS DISAPPEARED, AND THE FATE OF YOUR SONS AND DAUGHTERS HAS BEEN TRANSFORMED.
THE FETUS CURRENTLY LIVING WITHIN ITS MOTHER'S BODY IS UNFORTUNATELY ONLY FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT OF INJUSTICE. PLEASE EXCUSE ME FOR SPEAKING BLUNTLY, I JUST FEAR THAT THE HAPPINESS ENJOYED BY THE TWO OF YOU WILL BE CUT SHORT.
THERE... MUST BE SOME WAY TO CHANGE OUR SITUATION?


AT THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN, WIND AND PHOENIX HAVE CONTINUED TO KEEP THEIR DISTANCE. PHOENIX HAS CHANGED HER POSITION, WHILE WIND REMAINS STILL, CONFIDENT THAT HE CAN EASILY SUBDUE PHOENIX IF NECESSARY.
OPENING THE LETTER CASE, WIND SEEMS INDIFFERENT. BUT SUDDENLY HE LOOKS EXCITED.
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE OUR LAST CORRESPONDENCE, THOUGH YOU'VE BEEN VERY MUCH ON MY MIND. WE HAVE BEEN WRITING EACH OTHER FOR MANY YEARS NOW, AND I REGRET THAT WE HAVE NOT YET HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET. I'M PRESENTLY HERE ATTENDING TO SOME AFFAIRS AND I'VE LEARNED THAT YOU ARE ALSO HERE. IF YOU WISH TO KNOW MY FACE, PLEASE MEET ME AT THE MILL HOUSE IN TWO HOURS.
MONG

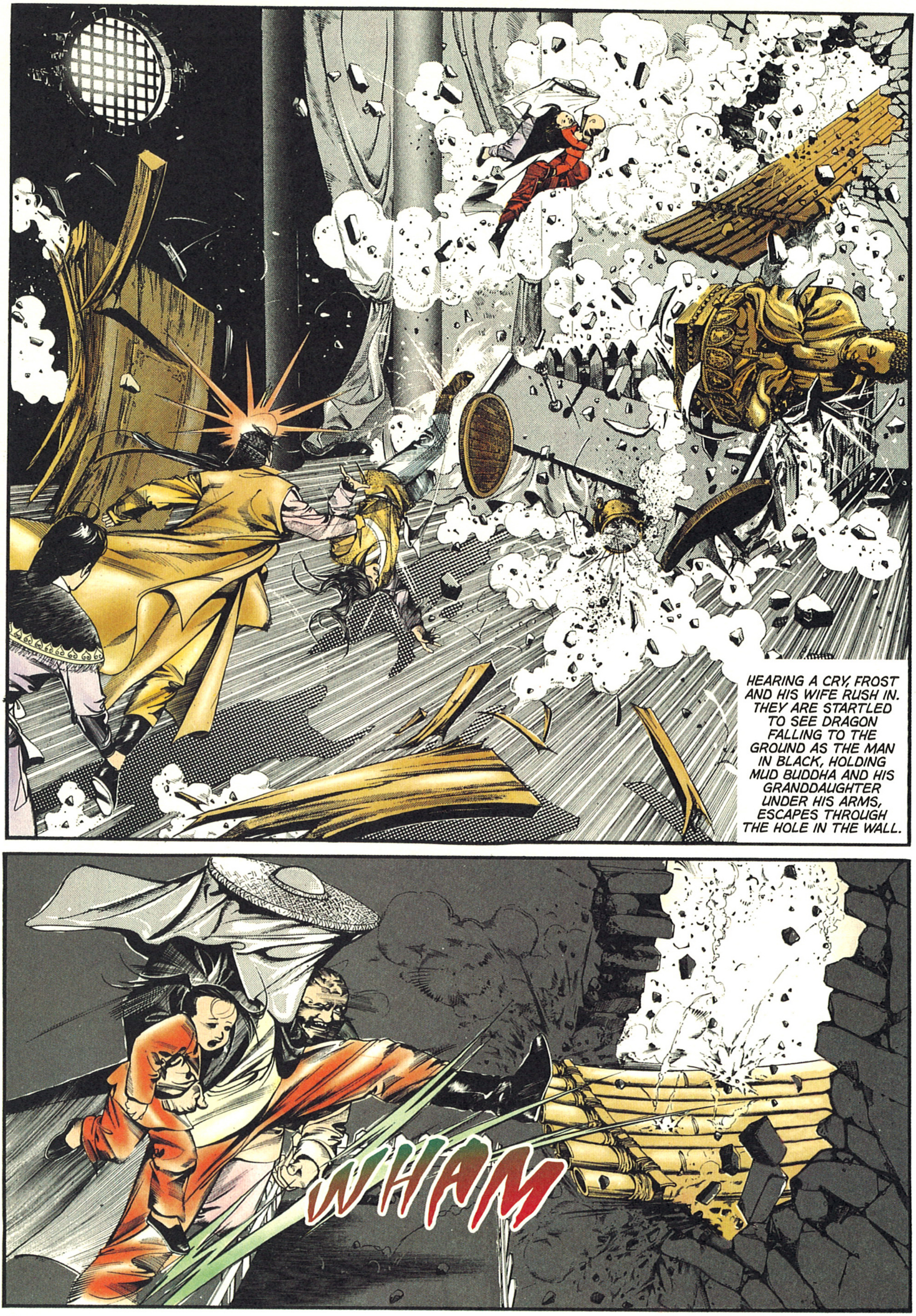

WIND'S ATTENTION IS NOT FOCUSED ON HIS SURROUNDINGS AND HE DOES NOT NOTICE A BAMBOO RAFT SURGING TOWARDS THE VILLAGE...

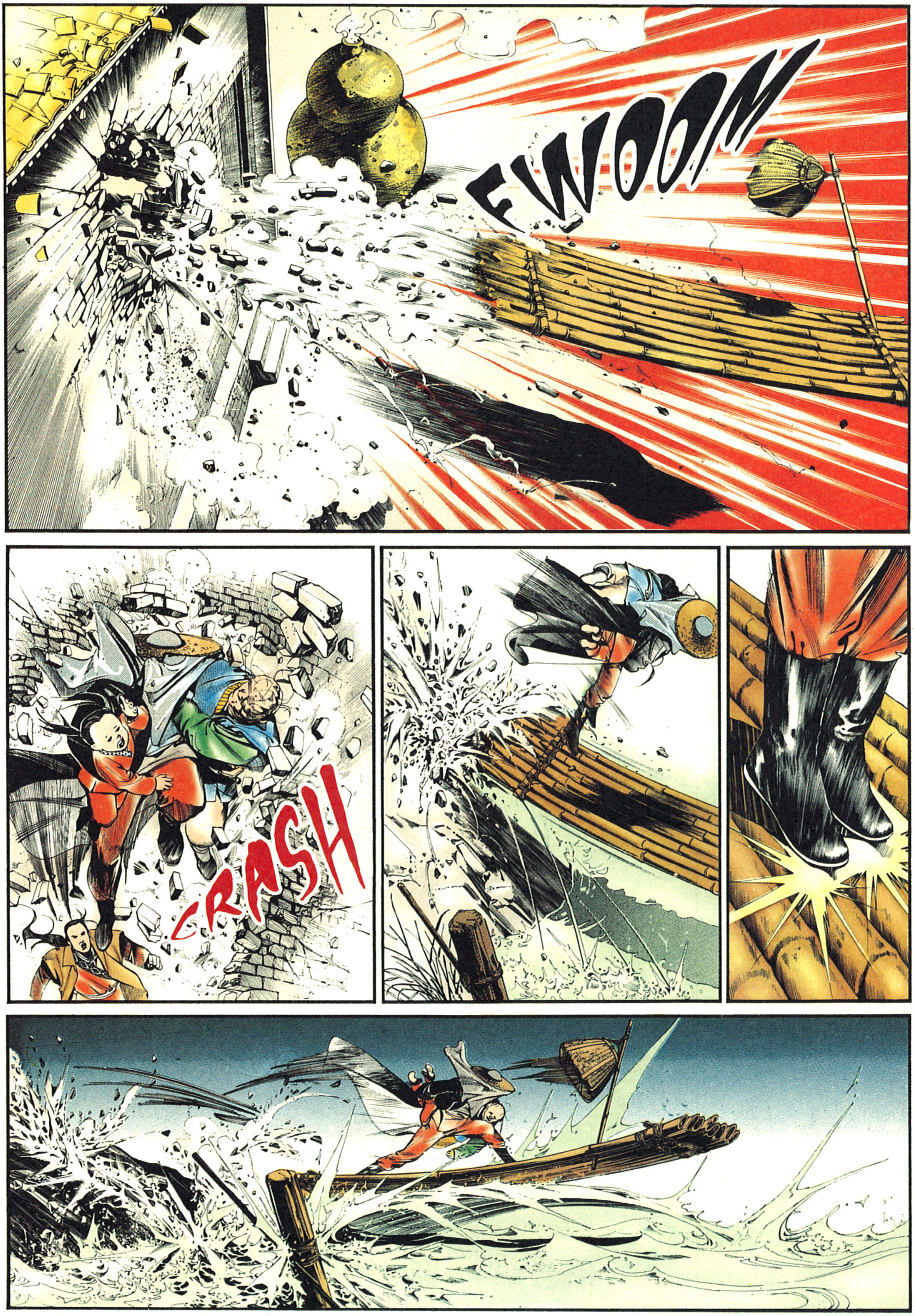

KRAAASH

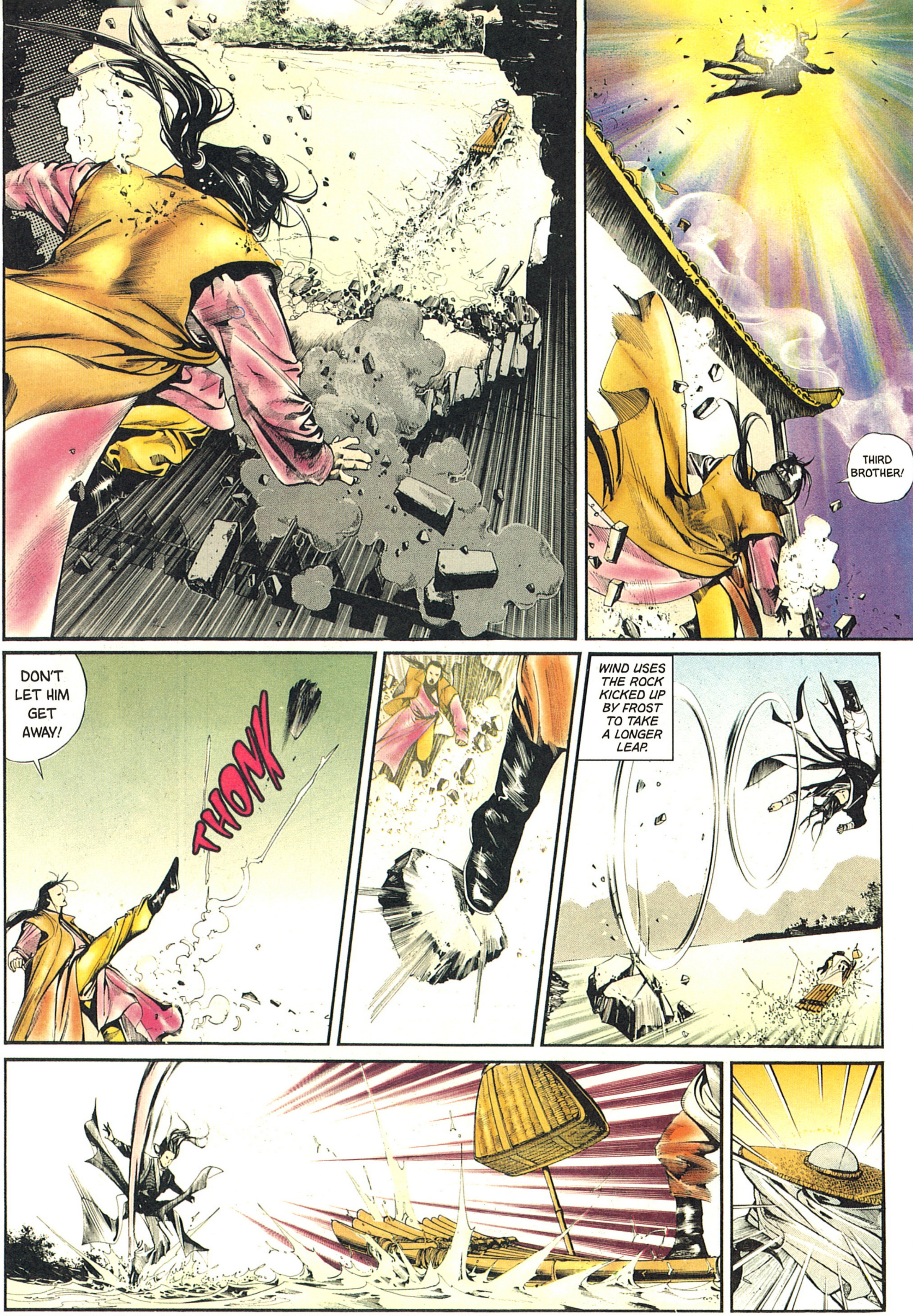

THE MAN IN BLACK SENDS PAIN TOWARDS DRAGON FROM HIS POINTED FINGERS.
THE FORCE MOVES WITH THE SPEED OF LIGHTNING, AND IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE, STRIKES DRAGON BEFORE HE CAN PREPARE A DEFENSE.
CRUNCH
WHAAM
FROST AND HIS WIFE HEAR THE SOUND AND IMMEDIATELY BREAK DOWN THE DOOR.
THOUGH SHOCKED BY WHAT HE SEES BEFORE HIM, FROST REMAINS FOCUSED.
END OF CHAPTER 10

# Chapter 11: From the Farthest Limits of the Sky, Dragons Crying Warn of Heaven's Change...

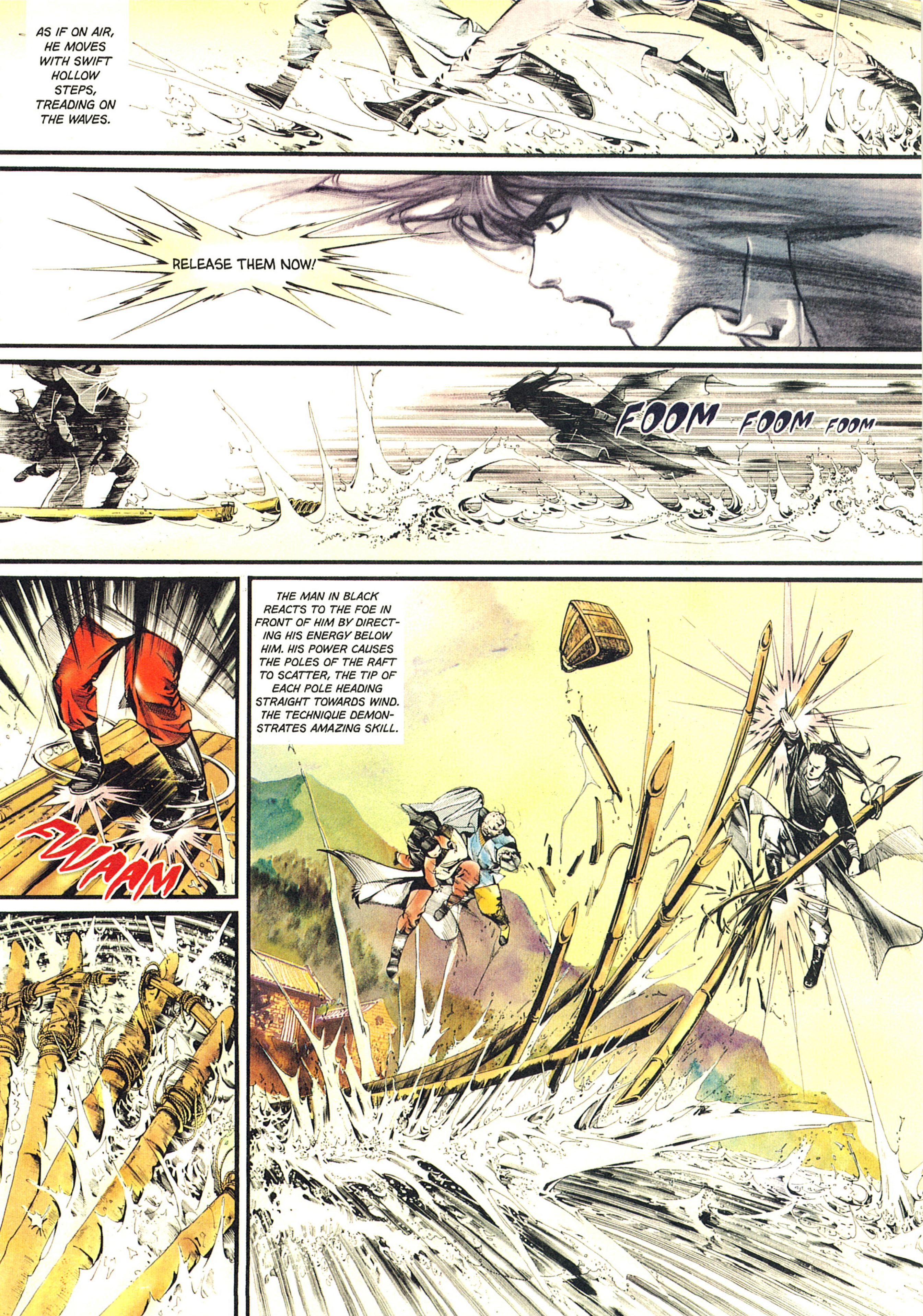
## ...When Wind and Cloud Emerge, the Dragon Will Sail into Treacherous Waters.

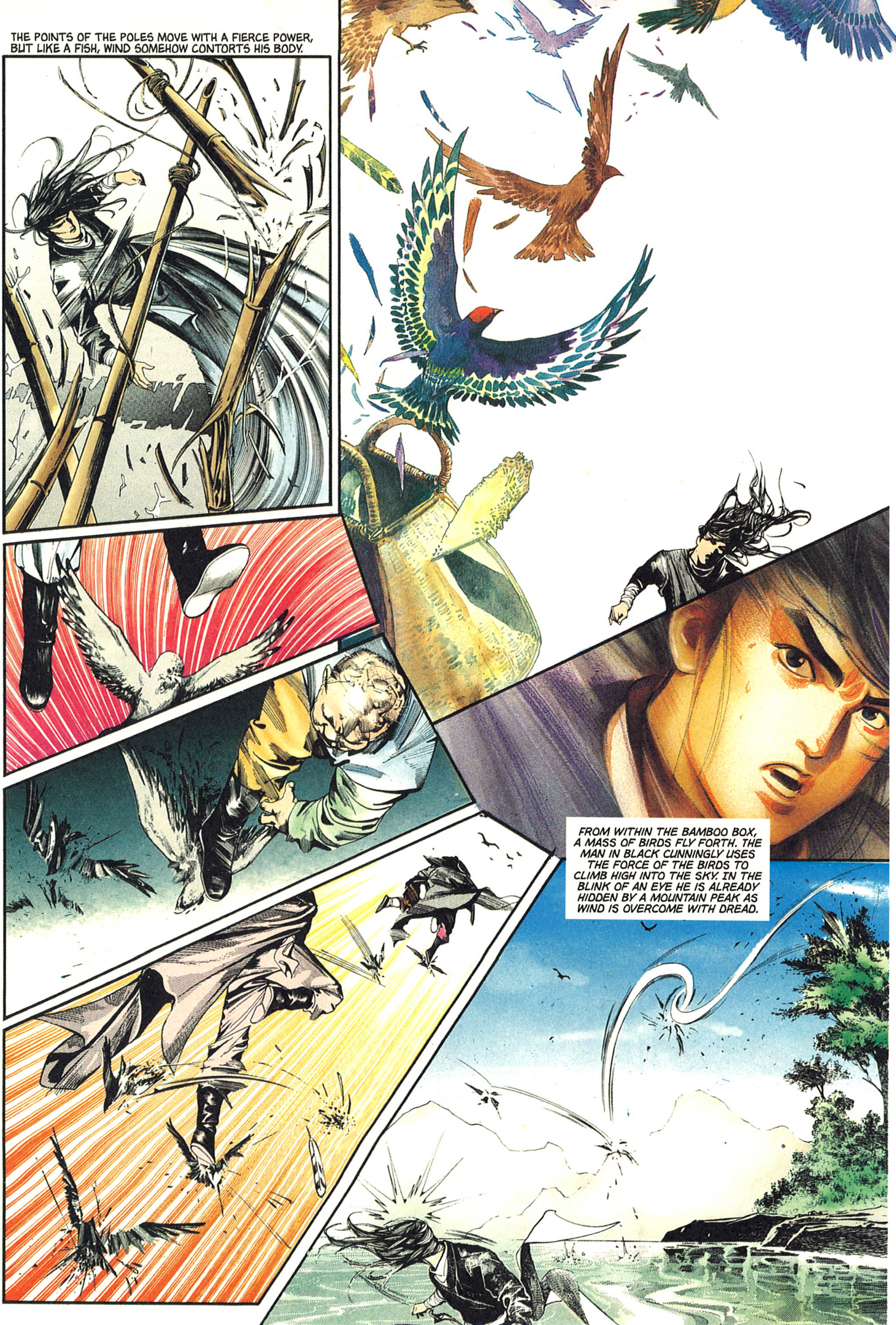

HEARING A CRY, FROST AND HIS WIFE RUSH IN. THEY ARE STARTLED TO SEE DRAGON FALLING TO THE GROUND AS THE MAN IN BLACK, HOLDING MUD BUDDHA AND HIS GRANDDAUGHTER UNDER HIS ARMS, ESCAPES THROUGH THE HOLE IN THE WALL.
WHAM

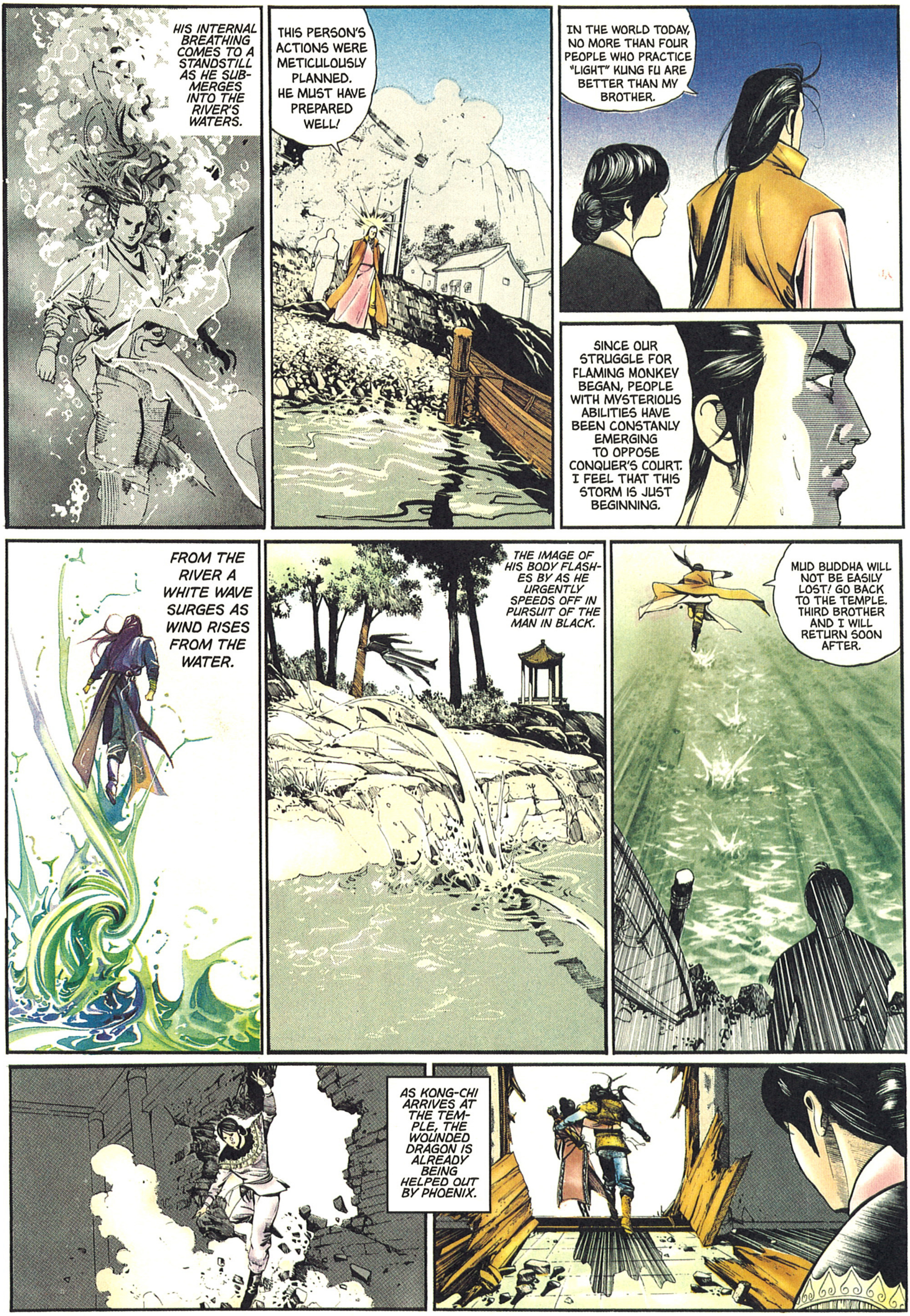

FIWOOM
CRASH

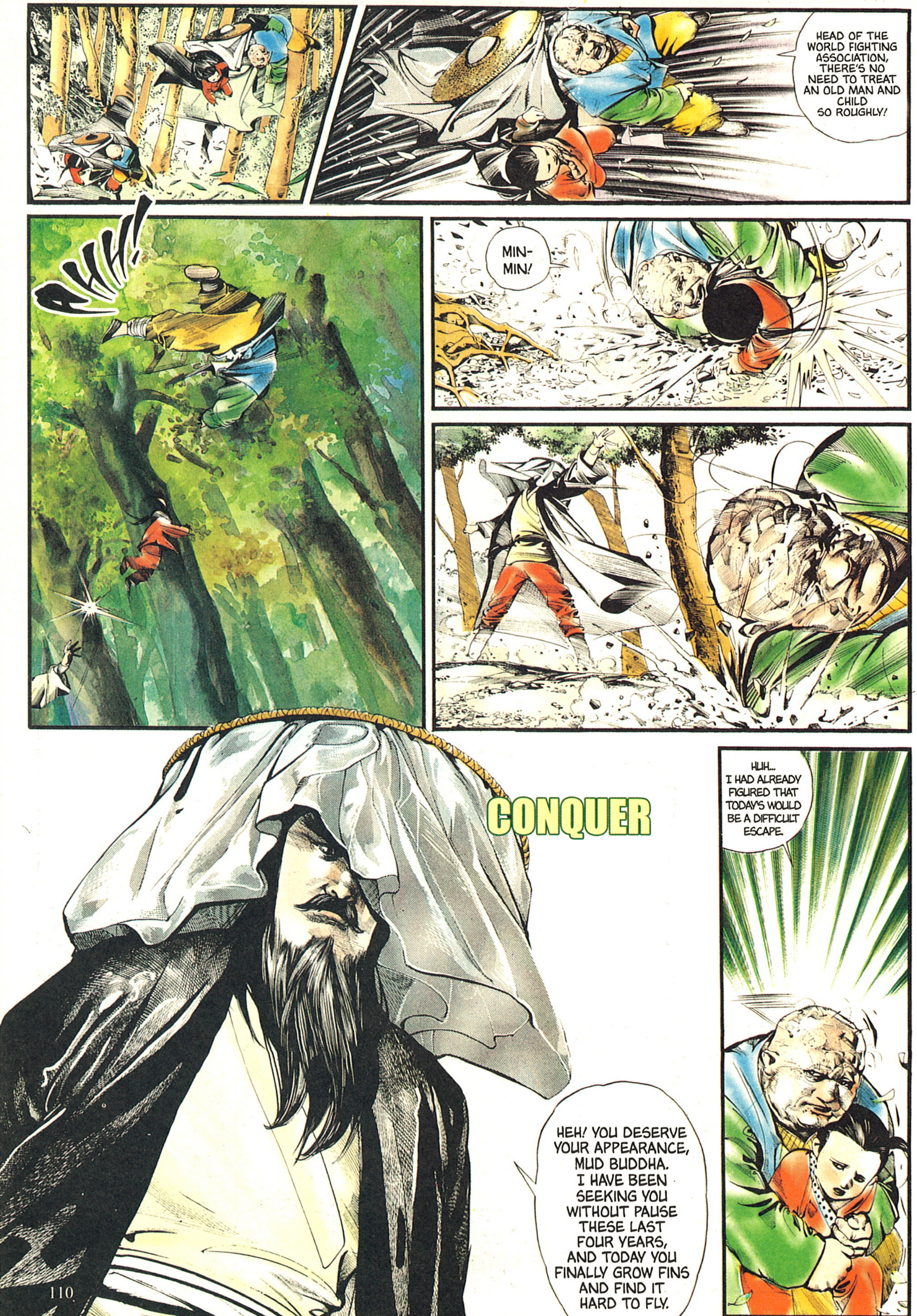

THIRD BROTHER!
DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!
THONK
WIND USES THE ROCK KICKED UP BY FROST TO TAKE A LONGER LEAP.

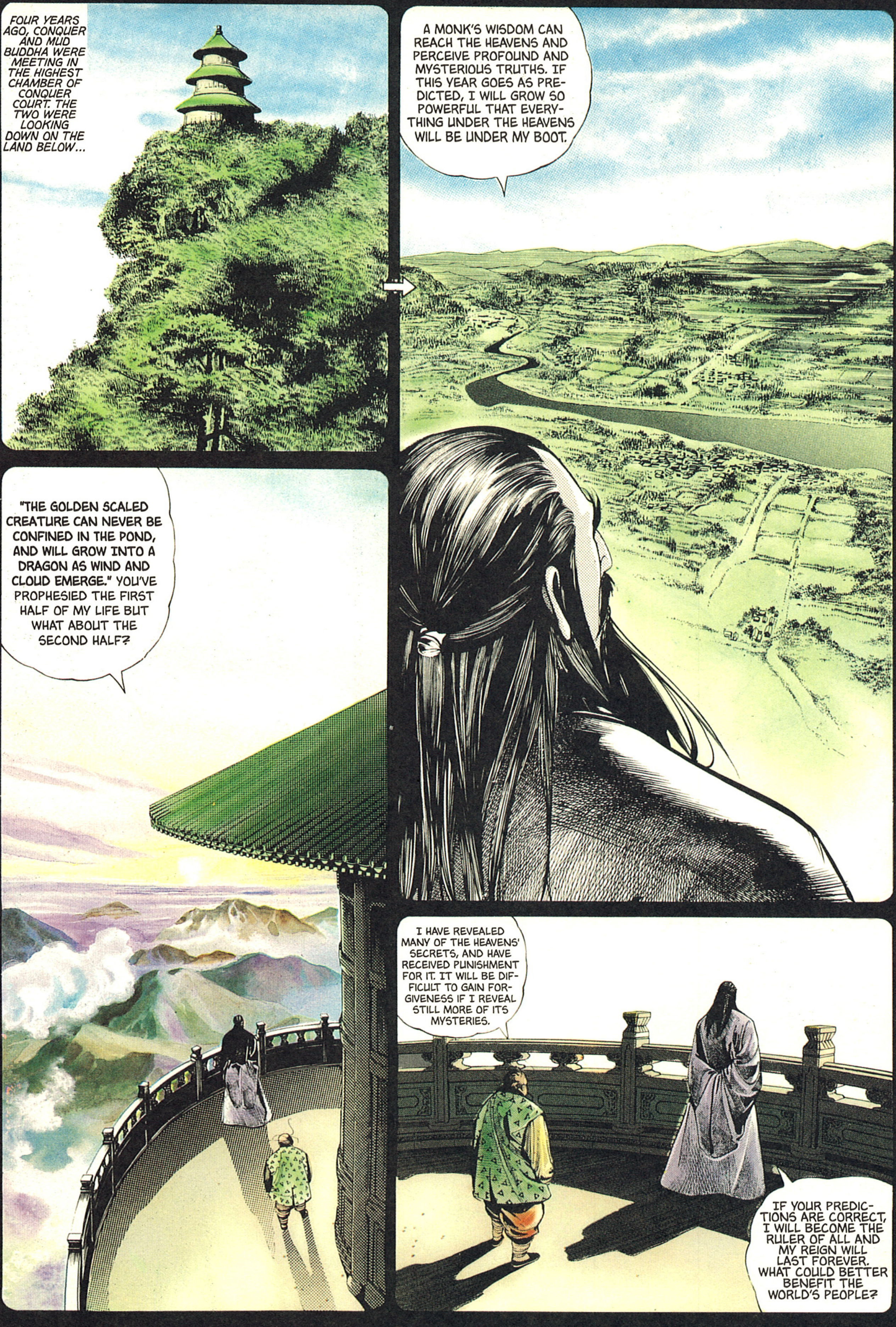
RISING AND FALLING, HE LANDS DIRECTLY IN THE PATH OF THE FIGHTER IN BLACK.

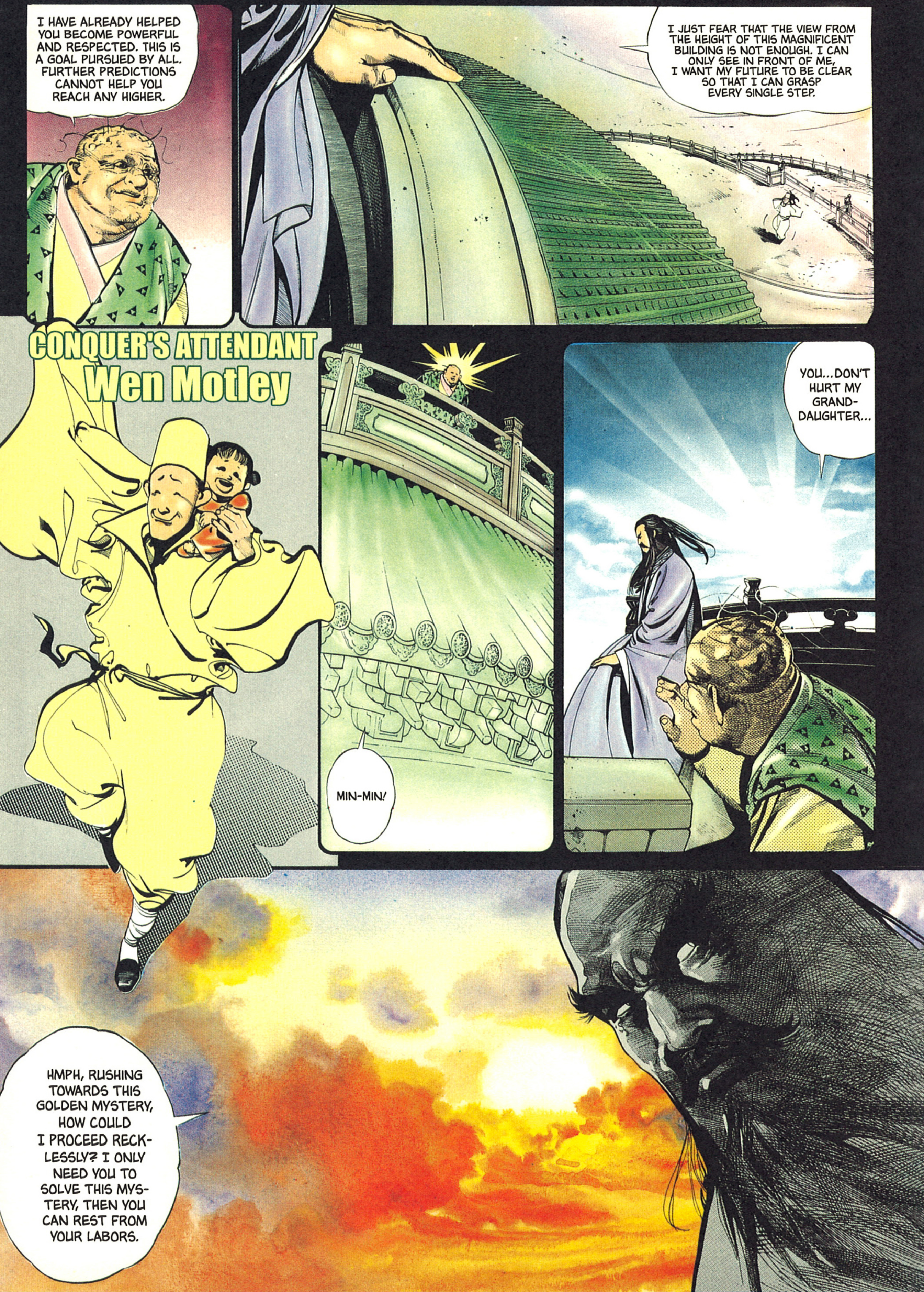

AS IF ON AIR, HE MOVES WITH SWIFT HOLLOW STEPS, TREADING ON THE WAVES.
RELEASE THEM NOW!
FOOM FOOM FOOM
FWAAM
THE MAN IN BLACK REACTS TO THE FOE IN FRONT OF HIM BY DIRECTING HIS ENERGY BELOW HIM. HIS POWER CAUSES THE POLES OF THE RAFT TO SCATTER, THE TIP OF EACH POLE HEADING STRAIGHT TOWARDS WIND. THE TECHNIQUE DEMONSTRATES AMAZING SKILL.

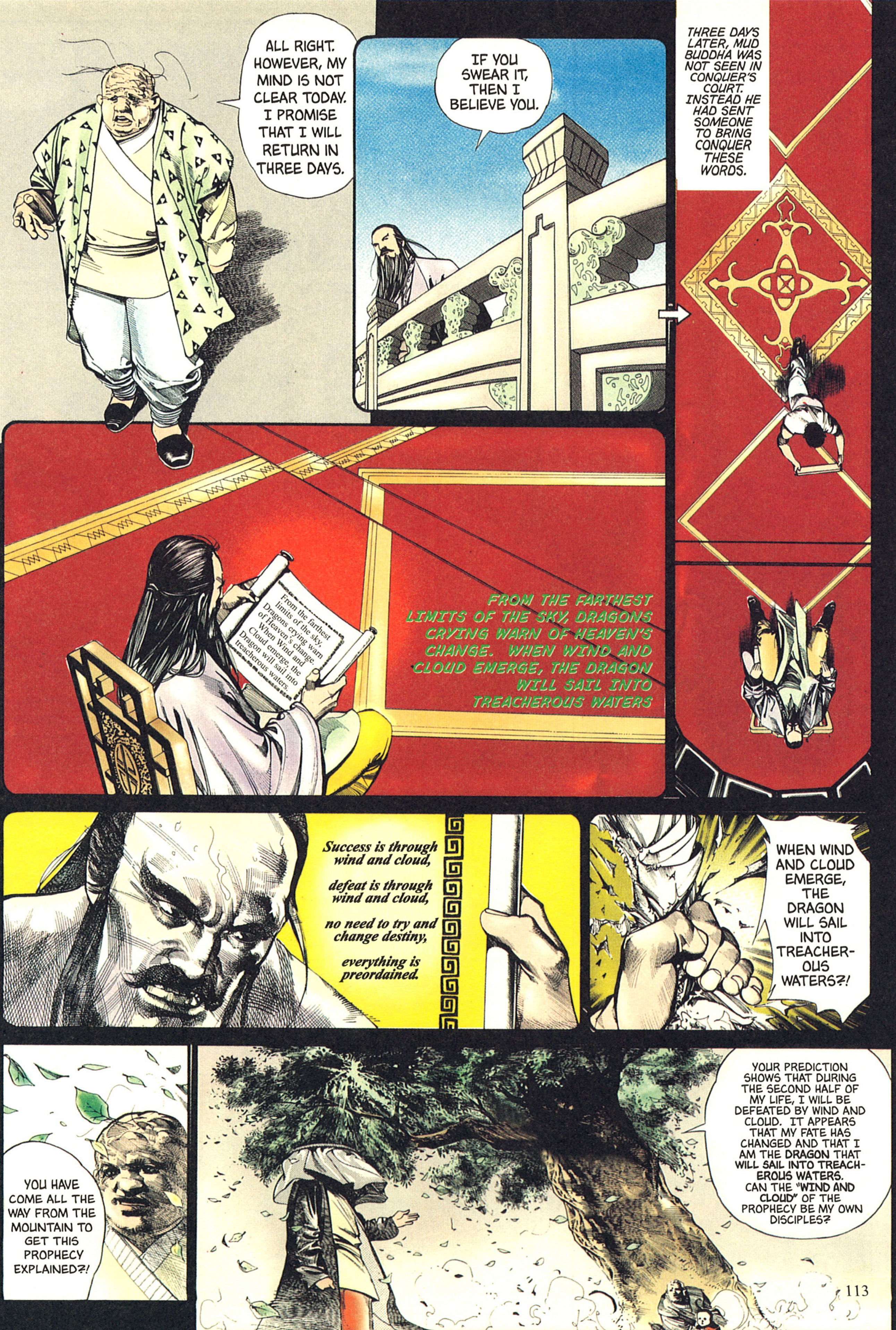

THE POINTS OF THE POLES MOVE WITH A FIERCE POWER, BUT LIKE A FISH, WIND SOMEHOW CONTORTS HIS BODY.
FROM WITHIN THE BAMBOO BOX, A MASS OF BIRDS FLY FORTH. THE MAN IN BLACK CUNNINGLY USES THE FORCE OF THE BIRDS TO CLIMB HIGH INTO THE SKY. IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE HE IS ALREADY HIDDEN BY A MOUNTAIN PEAK AS WIND IS OVERCOME WITH DREAD.

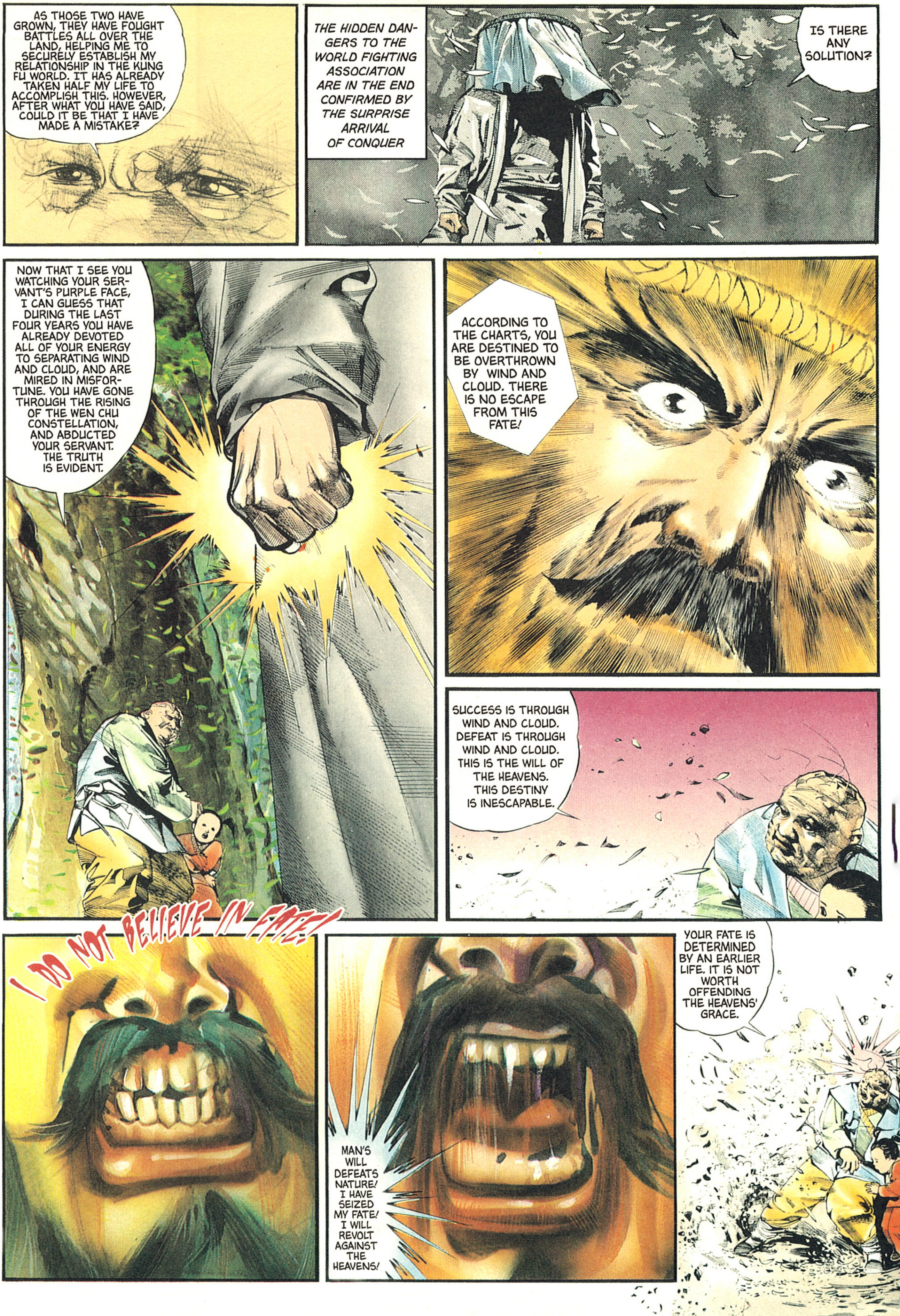

HIS INTERNAL BREATHING COMES TO A STANDSTILL AS HE SUBMERGES INTO THE RIVER'S WATERS.
THIS PERSON'S ACTIONS WERE METICULOUSLY PLANNED. HE MUST HAVE PREPARED WELL!
IN THE WORLD TODAY, NO MORE THAN FOUR PEOPLE WHO PRACTICE "LIGHT" KUNG FU ARE BETTER THAN MY BROTHER.
SINCE OUR STRUGGLE FOR FLAMING MONKEY BEGAN, PEOPLE WITH MYSTERIOUS ABILITIES HAVE BEEN CONSTANLY EMERGING TO OPPOSE CONQUER'S COURT. I FEEL THAT THIS STORM IS JUST BEGINNING.
FROM THE RIVER A WHITE WAVE SURGES AS WIND RISES FROM THE WATER.
THE IMAGE OF HIS BODY FLASHES BY AS HE URGENTLY SPEEDS OFF IN PURSUIT OF THE MAN IN BLACK.
MUD BUDDHA WILL NOT BE EASILY LOST! GO BACK TO THE TEMPLE. THIRD BROTHER AND I WILL RETURN SOON AFTER.
AS KONG-CHI ARRIVES AT THE TEMPLE, THE WOUNDED DRAGON IS ALREADY BEING HELPED OUT BY PHOENIX.

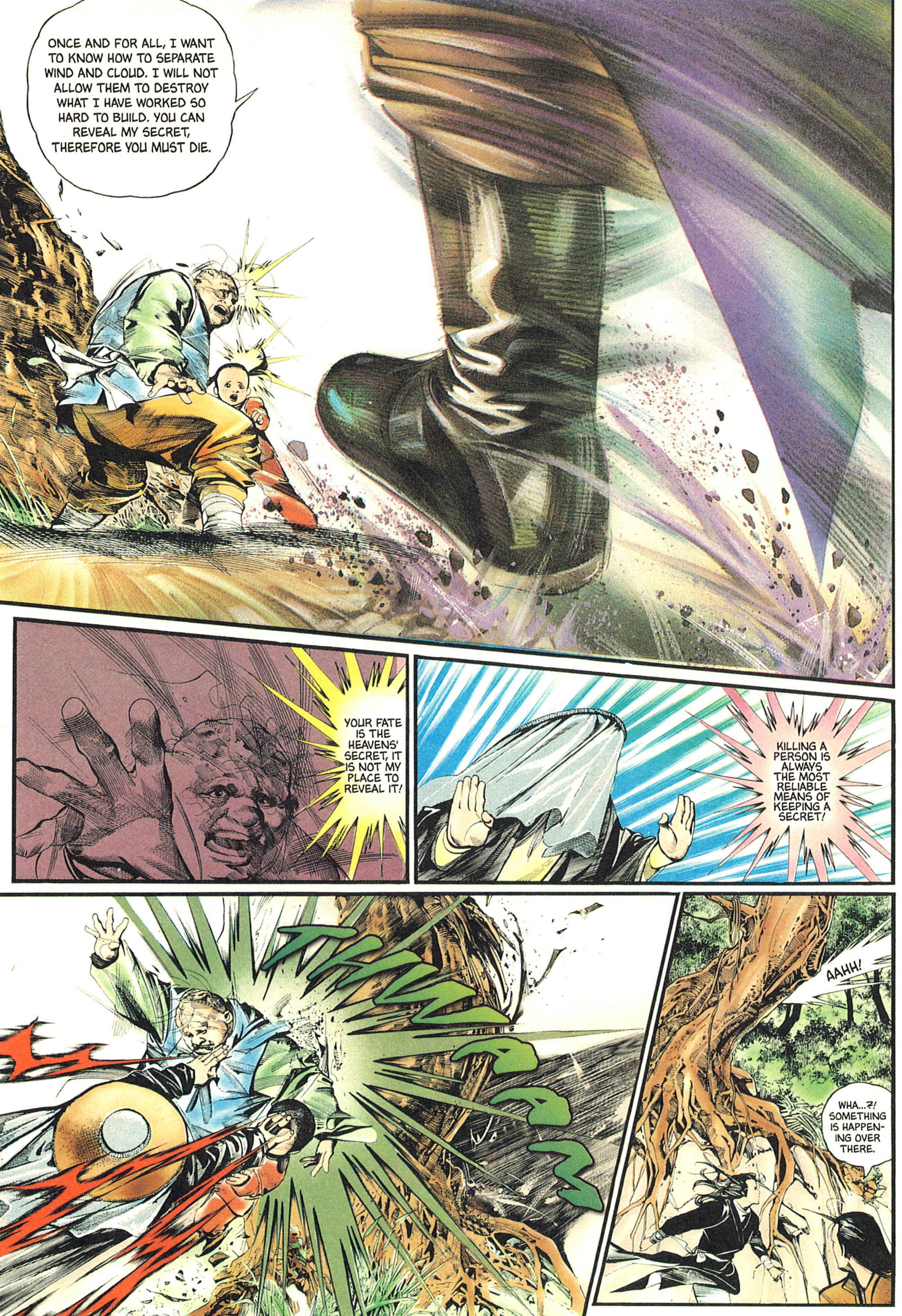

HEAD OF THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION, THERE'S NO NEED TO TREAT AN OLD MAN AND CHILD SO ROUGHLY!
AHHH!
MIN-MIN!
CONQUER
HUH... I HAD ALREADY FIGURED THAT TODAY'S WOULD BE A DIFFICULT ESCAPE.
HEH! YOU DESERVE YOUR APPEARANCE, MUD BUDDHA. I HAVE BEEN SEEKING YOU WITHOUT PAUSE THESE LAST FOUR YEARS, AND TODAY YOU FINALLY GROW FINS AND FIND IT HARD TO FLY.

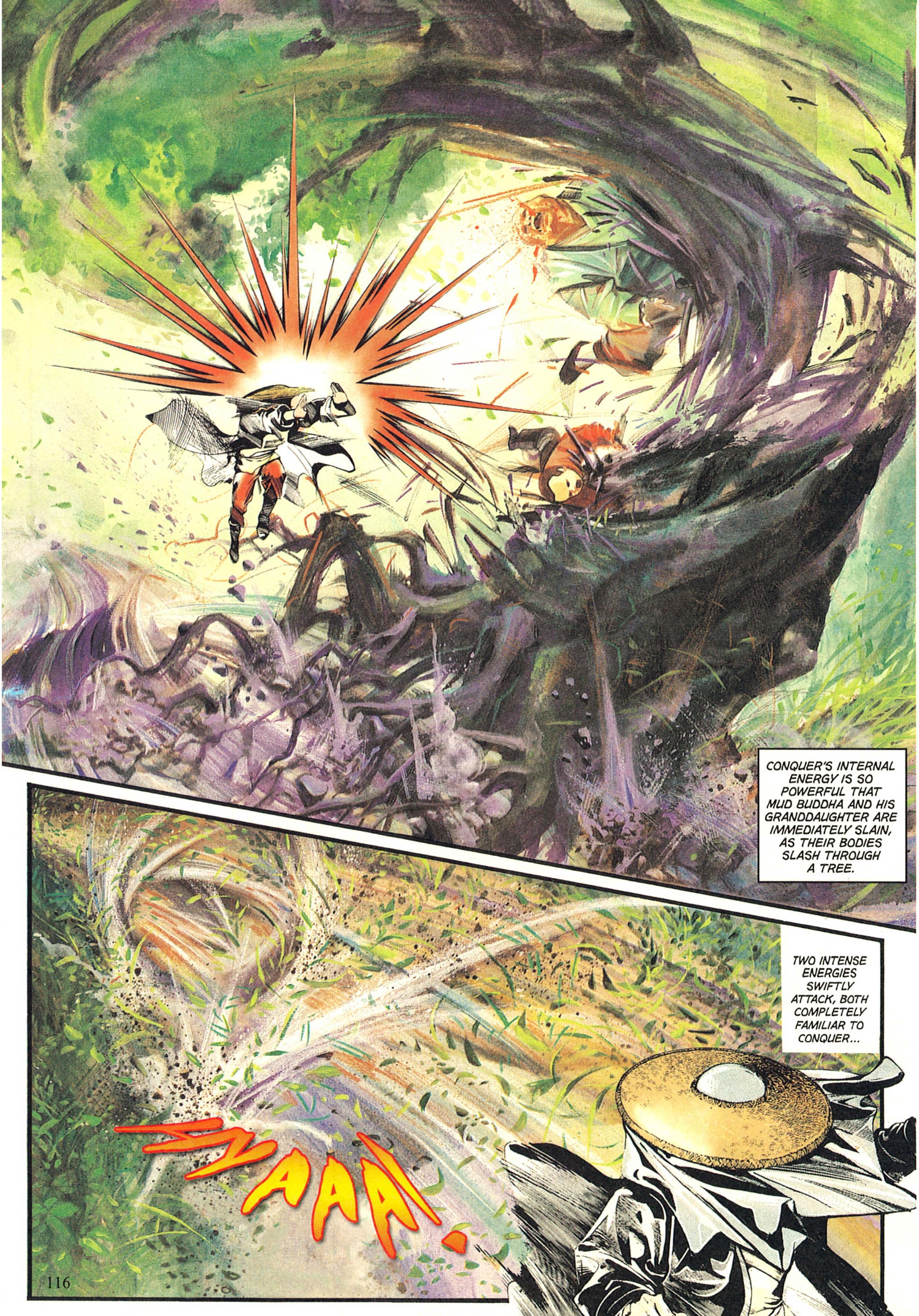

FOUR YEARS AGO, CONQUER AND MUD BUDDHA WERE MEETING IN THE HIGHEST CHAMBER OF CONQUER COURT. THE TWO WERE LOOKING DOWN ON THE LAND BELOW...
A MONK'S WISDOM CAN REACH THE HEAVENS AND PERCEIVE PROFOUND AND MYSTERIOUS TRUTHS. IF THIS YEAR GOES AS PREDICTED, I WILL GROW SO POWERFUL THAT EVERYTHING UNDER THE HEAVENS WILL BE UNDER MY BOOT.
"THE GOLDEN SCALED CREATURE CAN NEVER BE CONFINED IN THE POND, AND WILL GROW INTO A DRAGON AS WIND AND CLOUD EMERGE." YOU'VE PROPHESIED THE FIRST HALF OF MY LIFE BUT WHAT ABOUT THE SECOND HALF?
I HAVE REVEALED MANY OF THE HEAVENS' SECRETS, AND HAVE RECEIVED PUNISHMENT FOR IT. IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO GAIN FORGIVENESS IF I REVEAL STILL MORE OF ITS MYSTERIES.
IF YOUR PREDICTIONS ARE CORRECT, I WILL BECOME THE RULER OF ALL AND MY REIGN WILL LAST FOREVER. WHAT COULD BETTER BENEFIT THE WORLD'S PEOPLE?

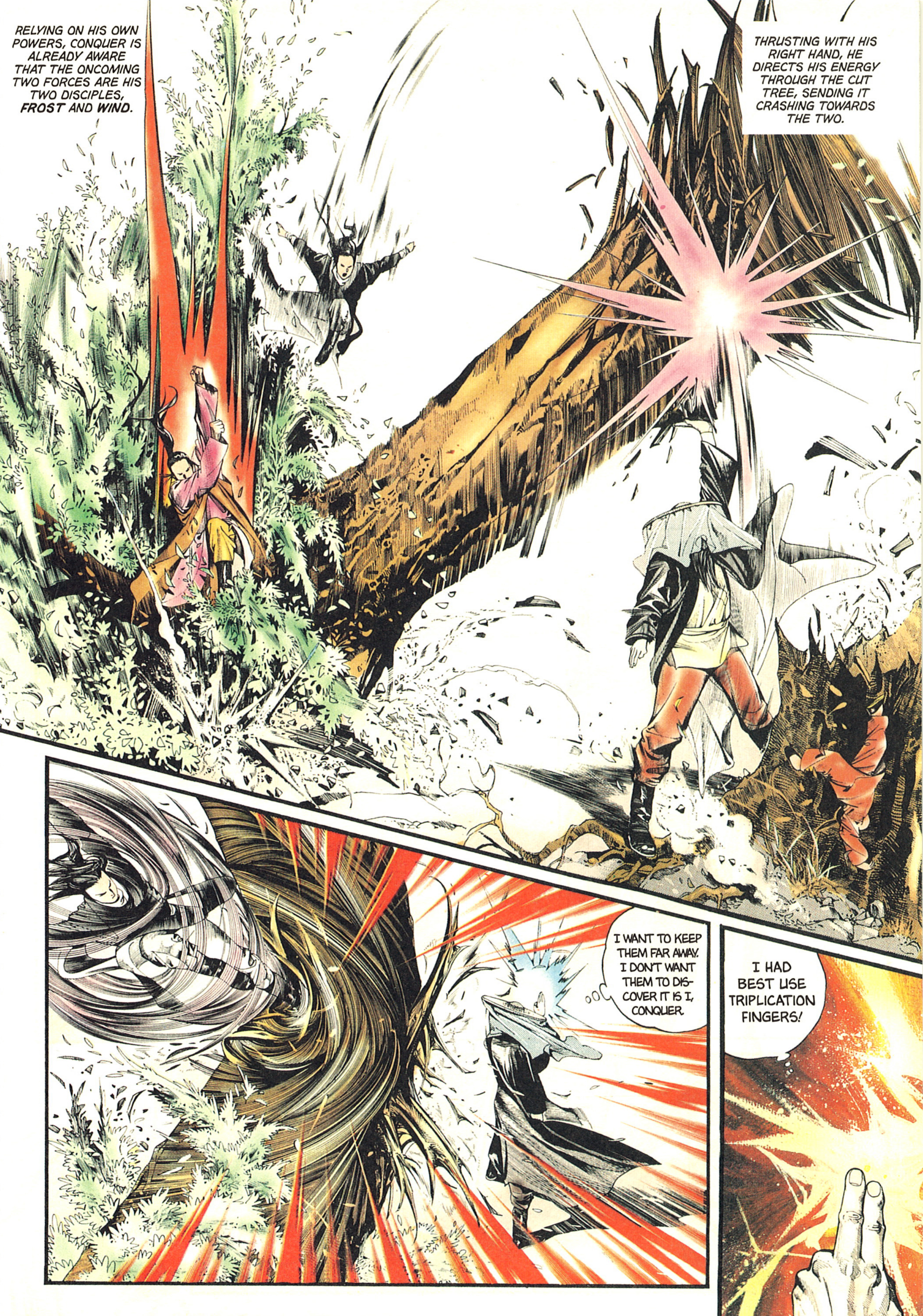

I HAVE ALREADY HELPED YOU BECOME POWERFUL AND RESPECTED. THIS IS A GOAL PURSUED BY ALL. FURTHER PREDICTIONS CANNOT HELP YOU REACH ANY HIGHER.
I JUST FEAR THAT THE VIEW FROM THE HEIGHT OF THIS MAGNIFICENT BUILDING IS NOT ENOUGH. I CAN ONLY SEE IN FRONT OF ME, I WANT MY FUTURE TO BE CLEAR SO THAT I CAN GRASP EVERY SINGLE STEP.
CONQUER'S ATTENDANT
Wen Motley
MIN-MIN!
YOU...DON'T HURT MY GRANDDAUGHTER...
HMPH, RUSHING TOWARDS THIS GOLDEN MYSTERY, HOW COULD I PROCEED RECKLESSLY? I ONLY NEED YOU TO SOLVE THIS MYSTERY, THEN YOU CAN REST FROM YOUR LABORS.

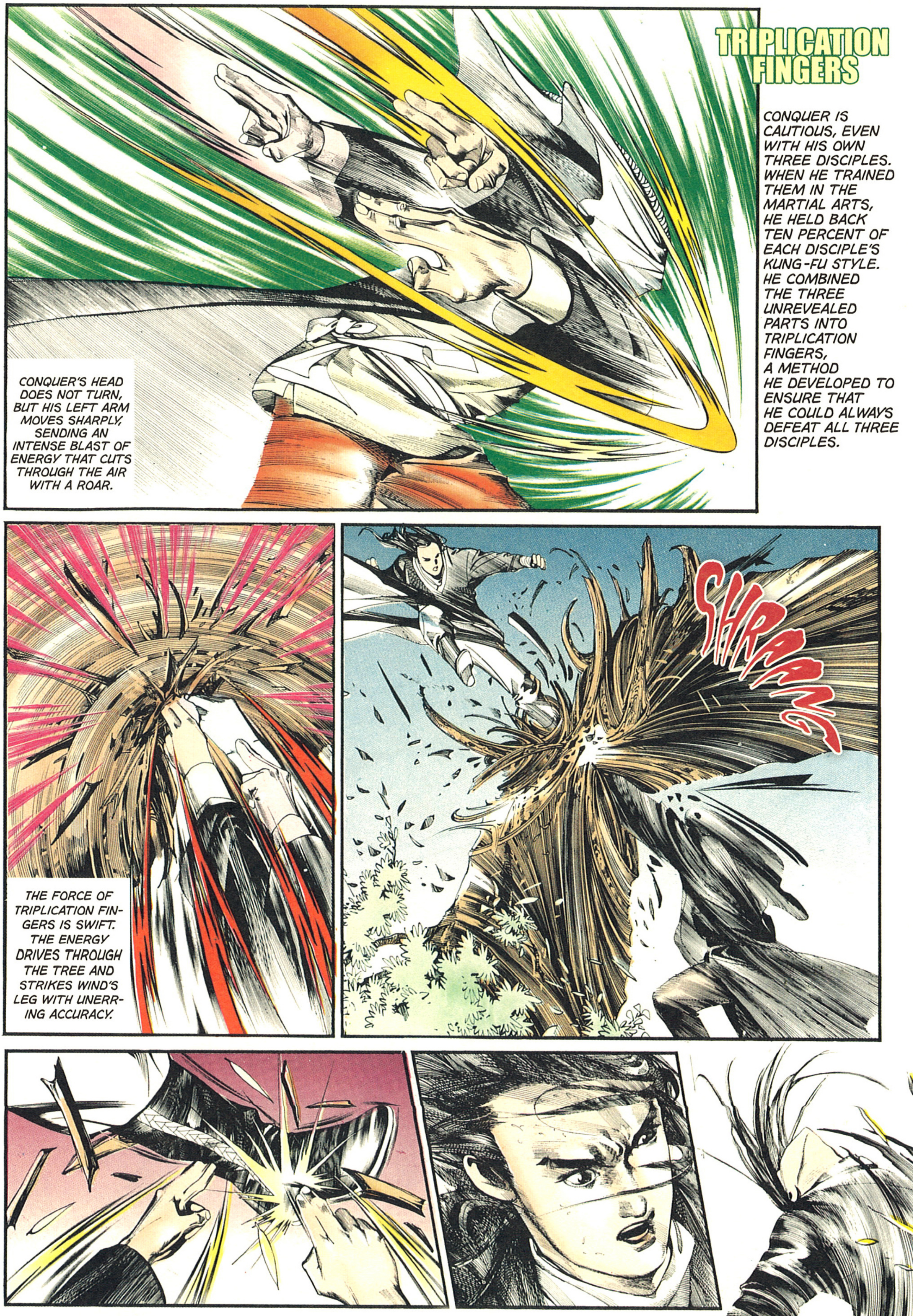

ALL RIGHT. HOWEVER, MY MIND IS NOT CLEAR TODAY. I PROMISE THAT I WILL RETURN IN THREE DAYS.
IF YOU SWEAR IT, THEN I BELIEVE YOU.
THREE DAYS LATER, MUD BUDDHA WAS NOT SEEN IN CONQUER'S COURT. INSTEAD HE HAD SENT SOMEONE TO BRING CONQUER THESE WORDS.
From the farthest limits of the sky, Dragons crying warn of Heaven's change. When Wind and Cloud emerge, the Dragon will sail into treacherous waters.
FROM THE FARTHEST LIMITS OF THE SKY, DRAGONS CRYING WARN OF HEAVEN'S CHANGE. WHEN WIND AND CLOUD EMERGE, THE DRAGON WILL SAIL INTO TREACHEROUS WATERS
Success is through wind and cloud, defeat is through wind and cloud, no need to try and change destiny, everything is preordained.
WHEN WIND AND CLOUD EMERGE, THE DRAGON WILL SAIL INTO TREACHEROUS WATERS?!
YOU HAVE COME ALL THE WAY FROM THE MOUNTAIN TO GET THIS PROPHECY EXPLAINED?!
YOUR PREDICTION SHOWS THAT DURING THE SECOND HALF OF MY LIFE, I WILL BE DEFEATED BY WIND AND CLOUD. IT APPEARS THAT MY FATE HAS CHANGED AND THAT I AM THE DRAGON THAT WILL SAIL INTO TREACHEROUS WATERS. CAN THE "WIND AND CLOUD" OF THE PROPHECY BE MY OWN DISCIPLES?


AS THOSE TWO HAVE GROWN, THEY HAVE FOUGHT BATTLES ALL OVER THE LAND, HELPING ME TO SECURELY ESTABLISH MY RELATIONSHIP IN THE KUNG FU WORLD. IT HAS ALREADY TAKEN HALF MY LIFE TO ACCOMPLISH THIS. HOWEVER, AFTER WHAT YOU HAVE SAID, COULD IT BE THAT I HAVE MADE A MISTAKE?
THE HIDDEN DANGERS TO THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION ARE IN THE END CONFIRMED BY THE SURPRISE ARRIVAL OF CONQUER
IS THERE ANY SOLUTION?
NOW THAT I SEE YOU WATCHING YOUR SERVANT'S PURPLE FACE, I CAN GUESS THAT DURING THE LAST FOUR YEARS YOU HAVE ALREADY DEVOTED ALL OF YOUR ENERGY TO SEPARATING WIND AND CLOUD, AND ARE MIRED IN MISFORTUNE. YOU HAVE GONE THROUGH THE RISING OF THE WEN CHU CONSTELLATION, AND ABDUCTED YOUR SERVANT. THE TRUTH IS EVIDENT.
ACCORDING TO THE CHARTS, YOU ARE DESTINED TO BE OVERTHROWN BY WIND AND CLOUD. THERE IS NO ESCAPE FROM THIS FATE!
SUCCESS IS THROUGH WIND AND CLOUD. DEFEAT IS THROUGH WIND AND CLOUD. THIS IS THE WILL OF THE HEAVENS. THIS DESTINY IS INESCAPABLE.
I DO NOT BELIEVE IN FATE!
MAN'S WILL DEFEATS NATURE! I HAVE SEIZED MY FATE! I WILL REVOLT AGAINST THE HEAVENS!
YOUR FATE IS DETERMINED BY AN EARLIER LIFE. IT IS NOT WORTH OFFENDING THE HEAVENS' GRACE.


ONCE AND FOR ALL, I WANT TO KNOW HOW TO SEPARATE WIND AND CLOUD. I WILL NOT ALLOW THEM TO DESTROY WHAT I HAVE WORKED SO HARD TO BUILD. YOU CAN REVEAL MY SECRET, THEREFORE YOU MUST DIE.
YOUR FATE IS THE HEAVENS' SECRET, IT IS NOT MY PLACE TO REVEAL IT!
KILLING A PERSON IS ALWAYS THE MOST RELIABLE MEANS OF KEEPING A SECRET!
THWAAM
AAHH!
WHA...?! SOMETHING IS HAPPENING OVER THERE.


CONQUER'S INTERNAL ENERGY IS SO POWERFUL THAT MUD BUDDHA AND HIS GRANDDAUGHTER ARE IMMEDIATELY SLAIN, AS THEIR BODIES SLASH THROUGH A TREE.
TWO INTENSE ENERGIES SWIFTLY ATTACK, BOTH COMPLETELY FAMILIAR TO CONQUER...
SHAAA!


RELYING ON HIS OWN POWERS, CONQUER IS ALREADY AWARE THAT THE ONCOMING TWO FORCES ARE HIS TWO DISCIPLES, **FROST** AND **WIND**.
THRUSTING WITH HIS RIGHT HAND, HE DIRECTS HIS ENERGY THROUGH THE CUT TREE, SENDING IT CRASHING TOWARDS THE TWO.
I WANT TO KEEP THEM FAR AWAY. I DON'T WANT THEM TO DISCOVER IT IS I, CONQUER.
I HAD BEST USE TRIPLICATION FINGERS!



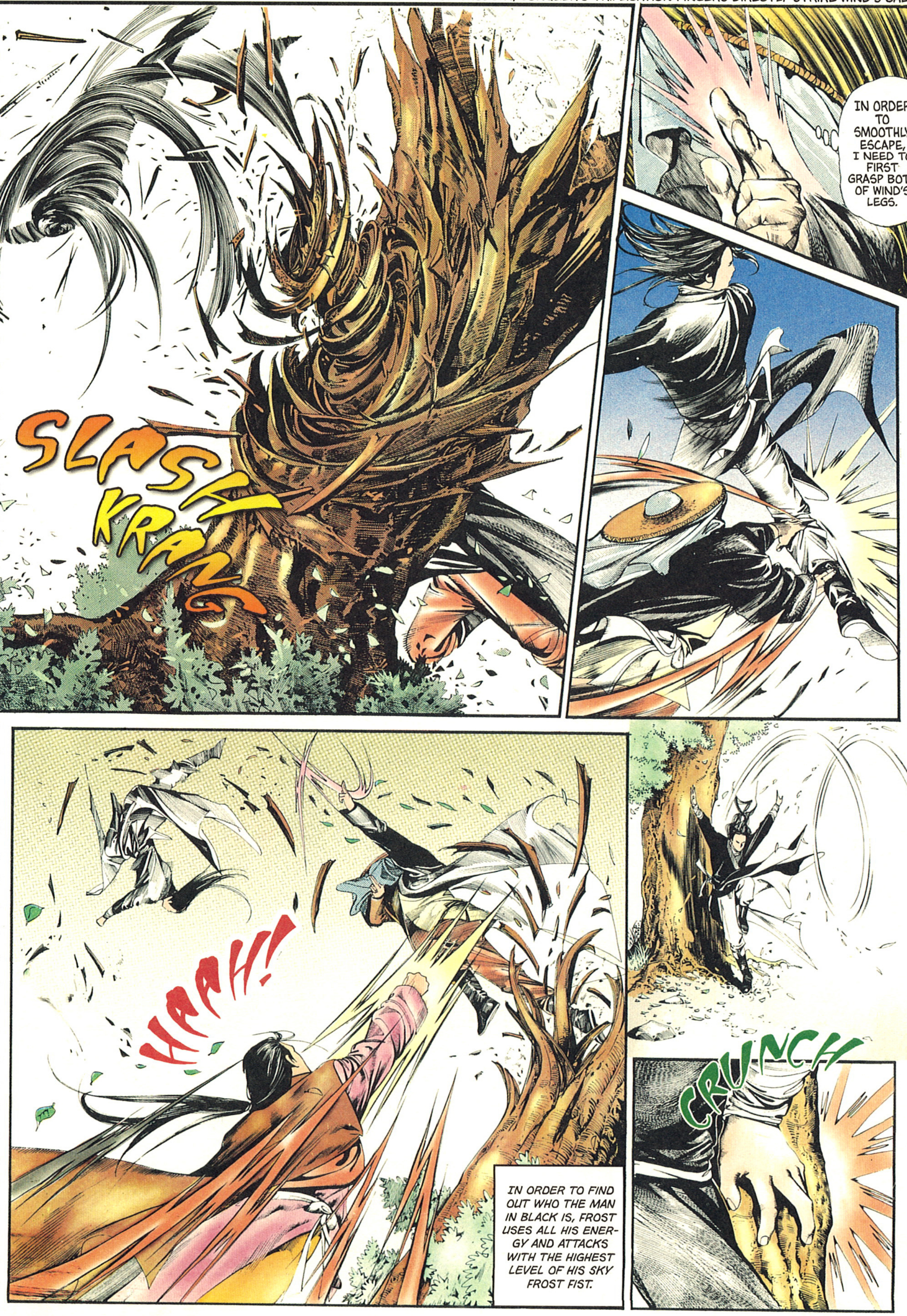
## TRIPLICATION FINGERS

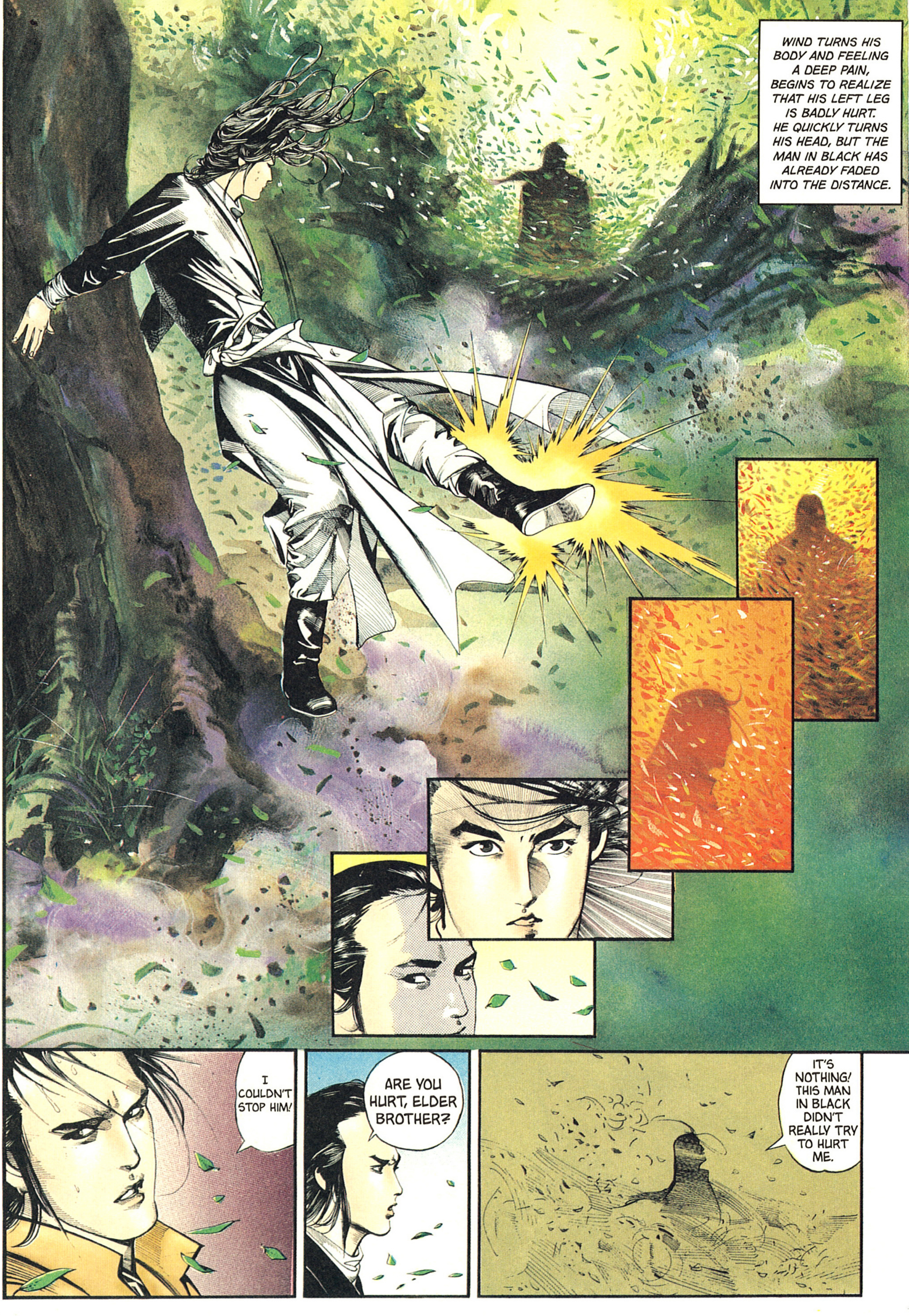
CONQUER IS CAUTIOUS, EVEN WITH HIS OWN THREE DISCIPLES. WHEN HE TRAINED THEM IN THE MARTIAL ARTS, HE HELD BACK TEN PERCENT OF EACH DISCIPLE'S KUNG-FU STYLE. HE COMBINED THE THREE UNREVEALED PARTS INTO TRIPLICATION FINGERS, A METHOD HE DEVELOPED TO ENSURE THAT HE COULD ALWAYS DEFEAT ALL THREE DISCIPLES.

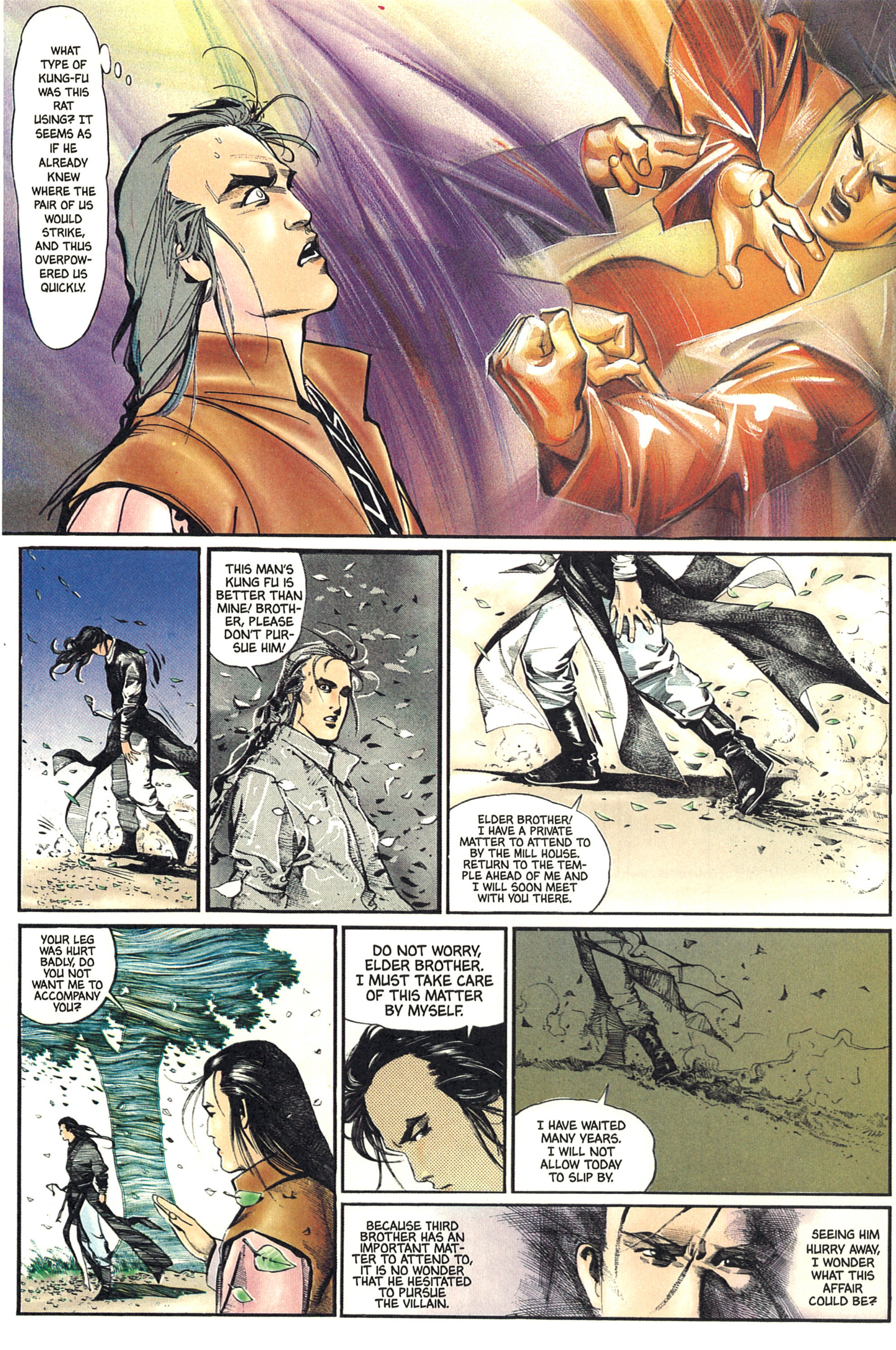
CONQUER'S HEAD DOES NOT TURN, BUT HIS LEFT ARM MOVES SHARPLY, SENDING AN INTENSE BLAST OF ENERGY THAT CUTS THROUGH THE AIR WITH A ROAR.

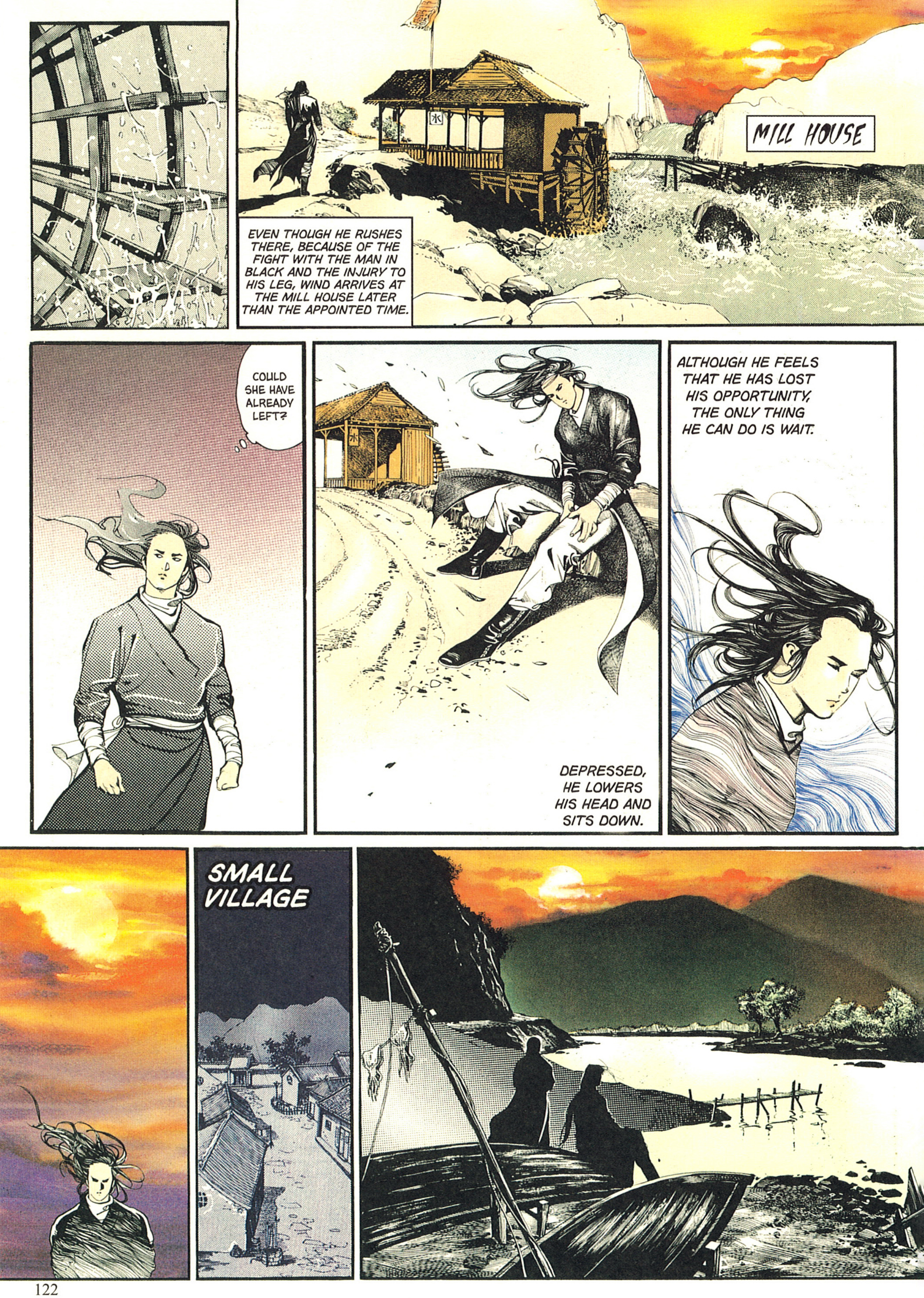
THE FORCE OF TRIPLICATION FINGERS IS SWIFT. THE ENERGY DRIVES THROUGH THE TREE AND STRIKES WIND'S LEG WITH UNERRING ACCURACY.

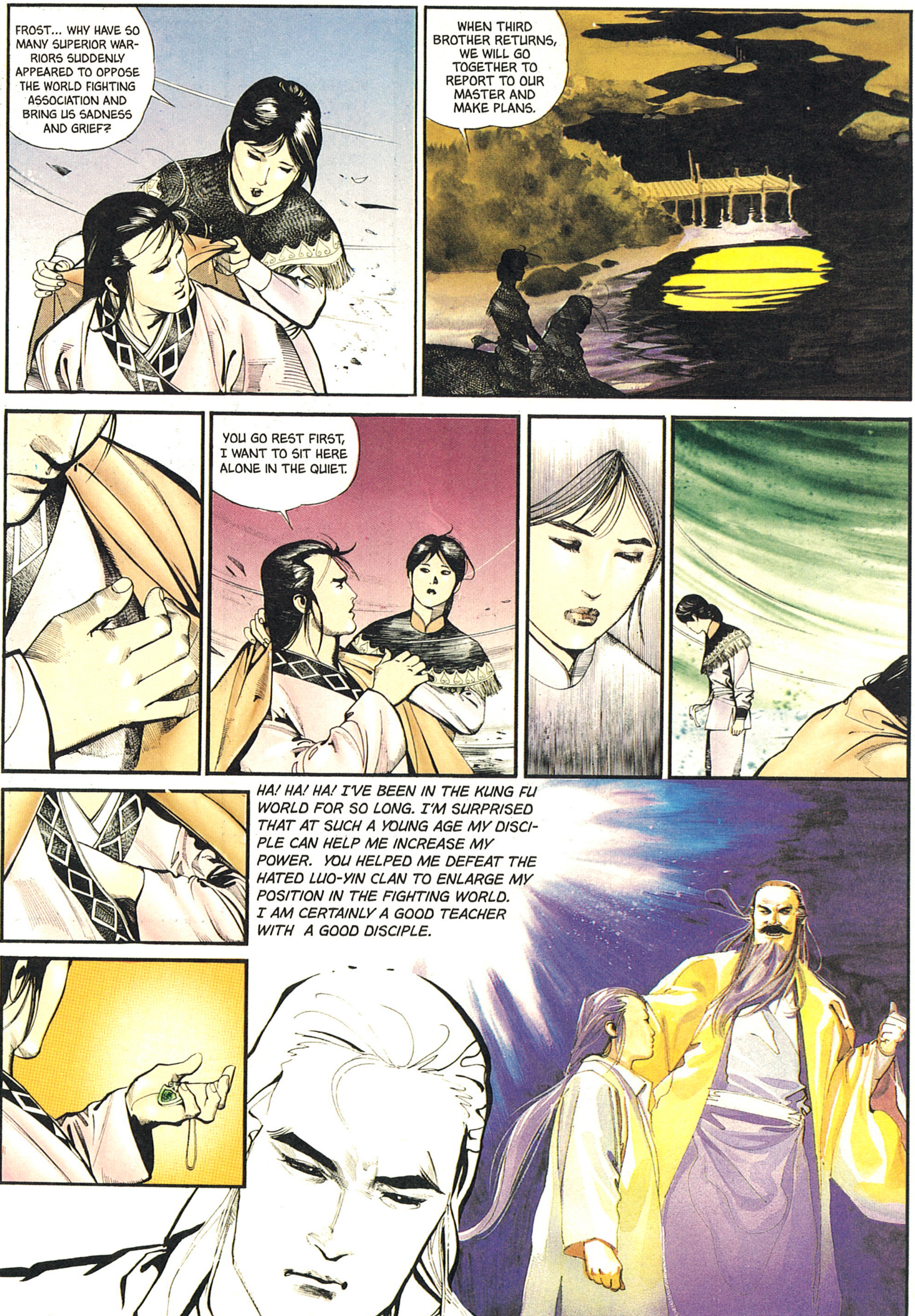
MOVING WITH THE SPEED OF THOUGHT, CONQUER'S TRIPLICATION FINGERS DIRECTLY STRIKE WIND'S CALF.

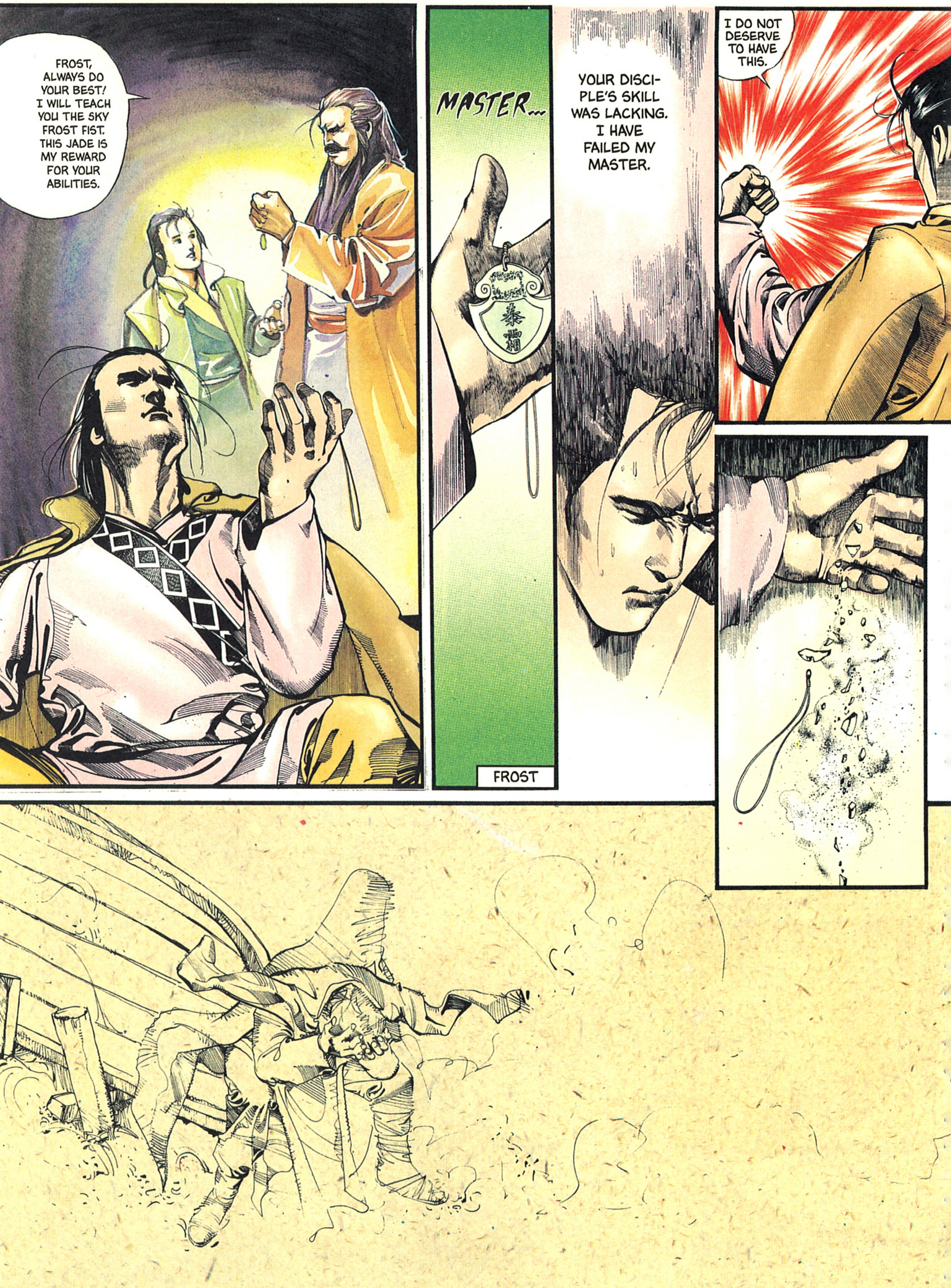

IN ORDER TO SMOOTHLY ESCAPE, I NEED TO FIRST GRASP BOTH OF WIND'S LEGS.
SLASH
KRANG
HAAH!
CRUNCH
IN ORDER TO FIND OUT WHO THE MAN IN BLACK IS, FROST USES ALL HIS ENERGY AND ATTACKS WITH THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF HIS SKY FROST FIST.

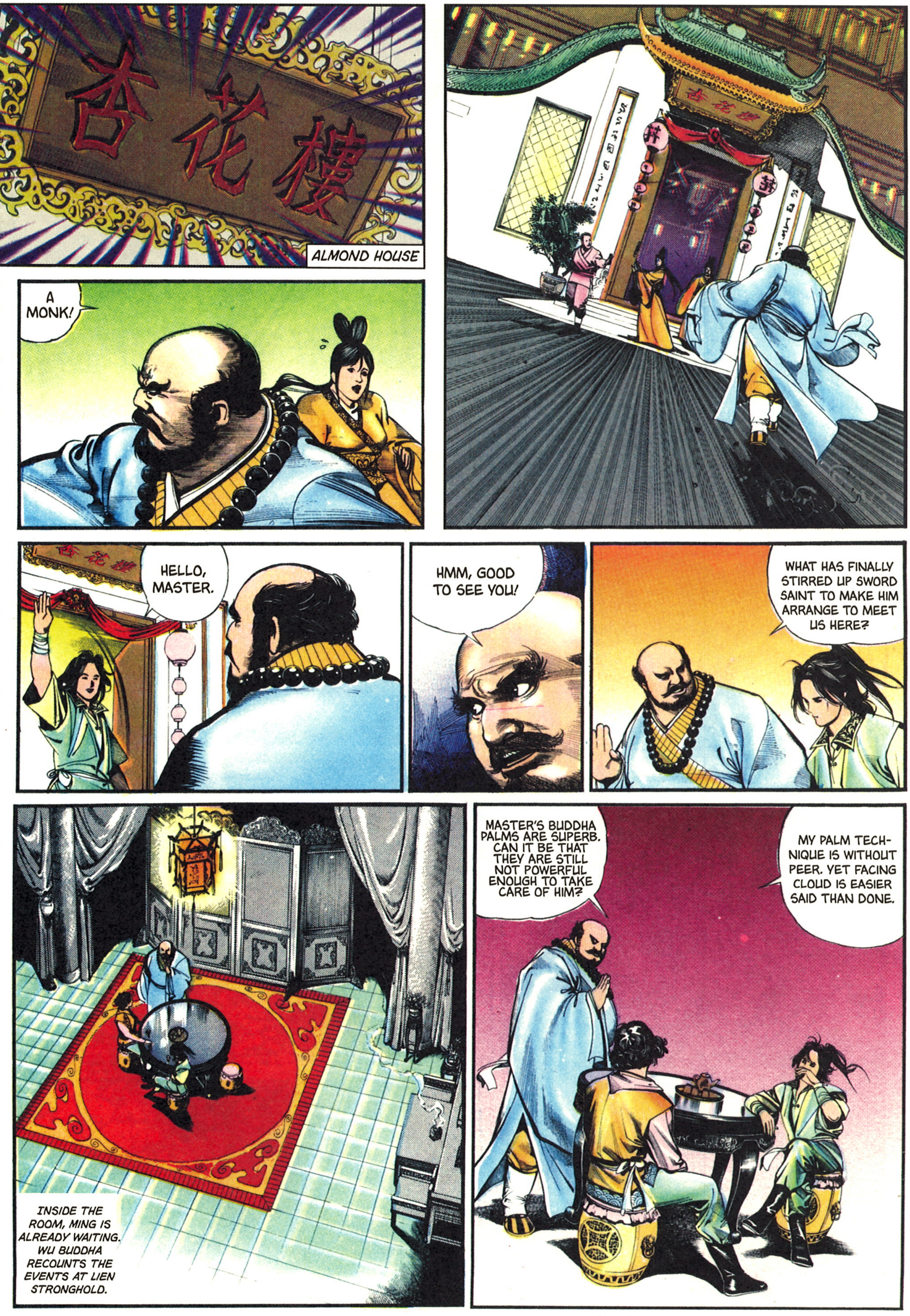

WIND TURNS HIS BODY AND FEELING A DEEP PAIN, BEGINS TO REALIZE THAT HIS LEFT LEG IS BADLY HURT. HE QUICKLY TURNS HIS HEAD, BUT THE MAN IN BLACK HAS ALREADY FADED INTO THE DISTANCE.
I COULDN'T STOP HIM!
ARE YOU HURT, ELDER BROTHER?
IT'S NOTHING! THIS MAN IN BLACK DIDN'T REALLY TRY TO HURT ME.


WHAT TYPE OF KUNG-FU WAS THIS RAT USING? IT SEEMS AS IF HE ALREADY KNEW WHERE THE PAIR OF US WOULD STRIKE, AND THUS OVERPOWERED US QUICKLY.
THIS MAN'S KUNG FU IS BETTER THAN MINE! BROTHER, PLEASE DON'T PURSUE HIM!
ELDER BROTHER! I HAVE A PRIVATE MATTER TO ATTEND TO BY THE MILL HOUSE. RETURN TO THE TEMPLE AHEAD OF ME AND I WILL SOON MEET WITH YOU THERE.
YOUR LEG WAS HURT BADLY, DO YOU NOT WANT ME TO ACCOMPANY YOU?
DO NOT WORRY, ELDER BROTHER. I MUST TAKE CARE OF THIS MATTER BY MYSELF.
I HAVE WAITED MANY YEARS. I WILL NOT ALLOW TODAY TO SLIP BY.
BECAUSE THIRD BROTHER HAS AN IMPORTANT MATTER TO ATTEND TO, IT IS NO WONDER THAT HE HESITATED TO PURSUE THE VILLAIN.
SEEING HIM HURRY AWAY, I WONDER WHAT THIS AFFAIR COULD BE?

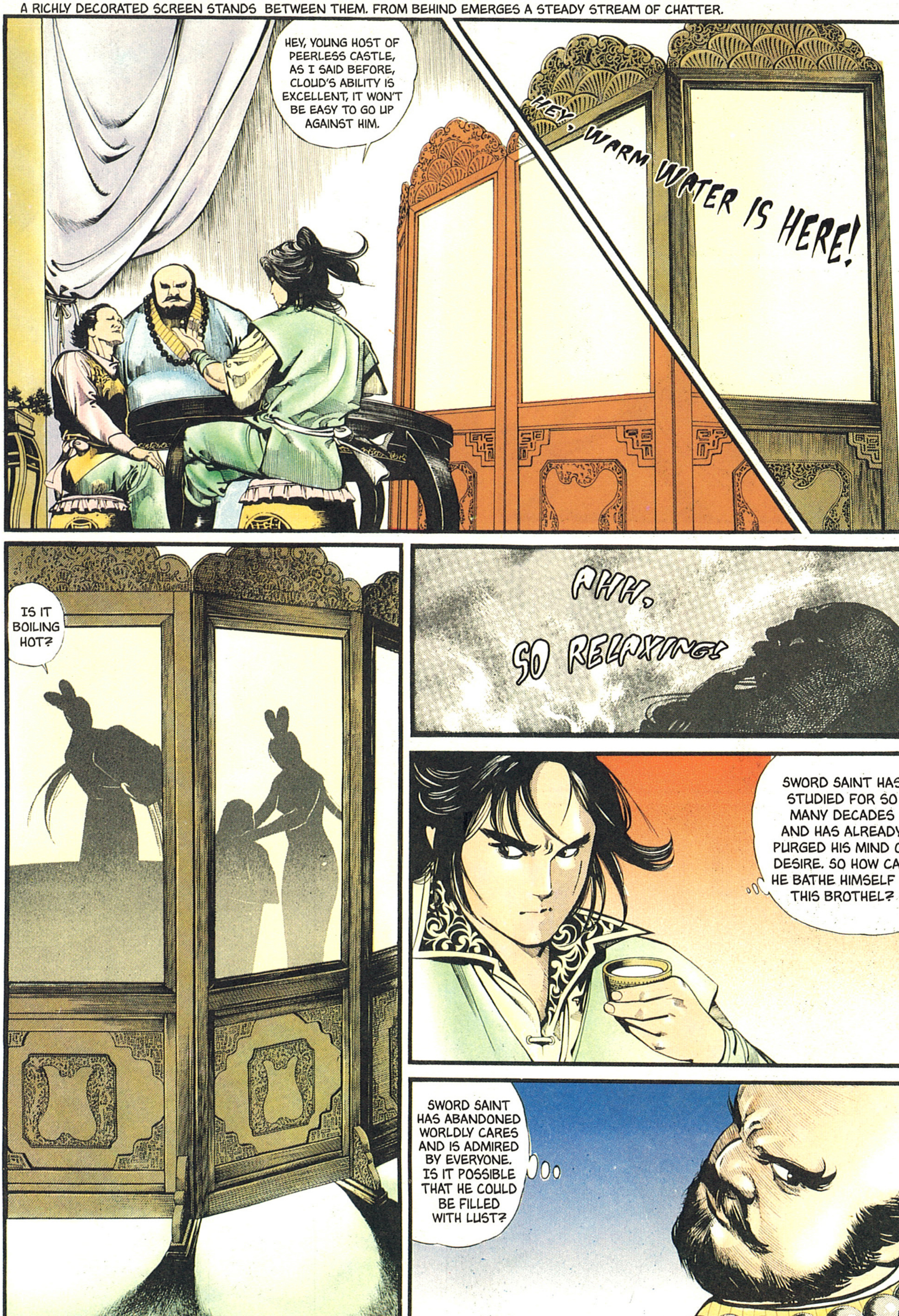

MILL HOUSE
水
EVEN THOUGH HE RUSHES THERE, BECAUSE OF THE FIGHT WITH THE MAN IN BLACK AND THE INJURY TO HIS LEG, WIND ARRIVES AT THE MILL HOUSE LATER THAN THE APPOINTED TIME.
COULD SHE HAVE ALREADY LEFT?
水
DEPRESSED, HE LOWERS HIS HEAD AND SITS DOWN.
ALTHOUGH HE FEELS THAT HE HAS LOST HIS OPPORTUNITY, THE ONLY THING HE CAN DO IS WAIT.
SMALL VILLAGE

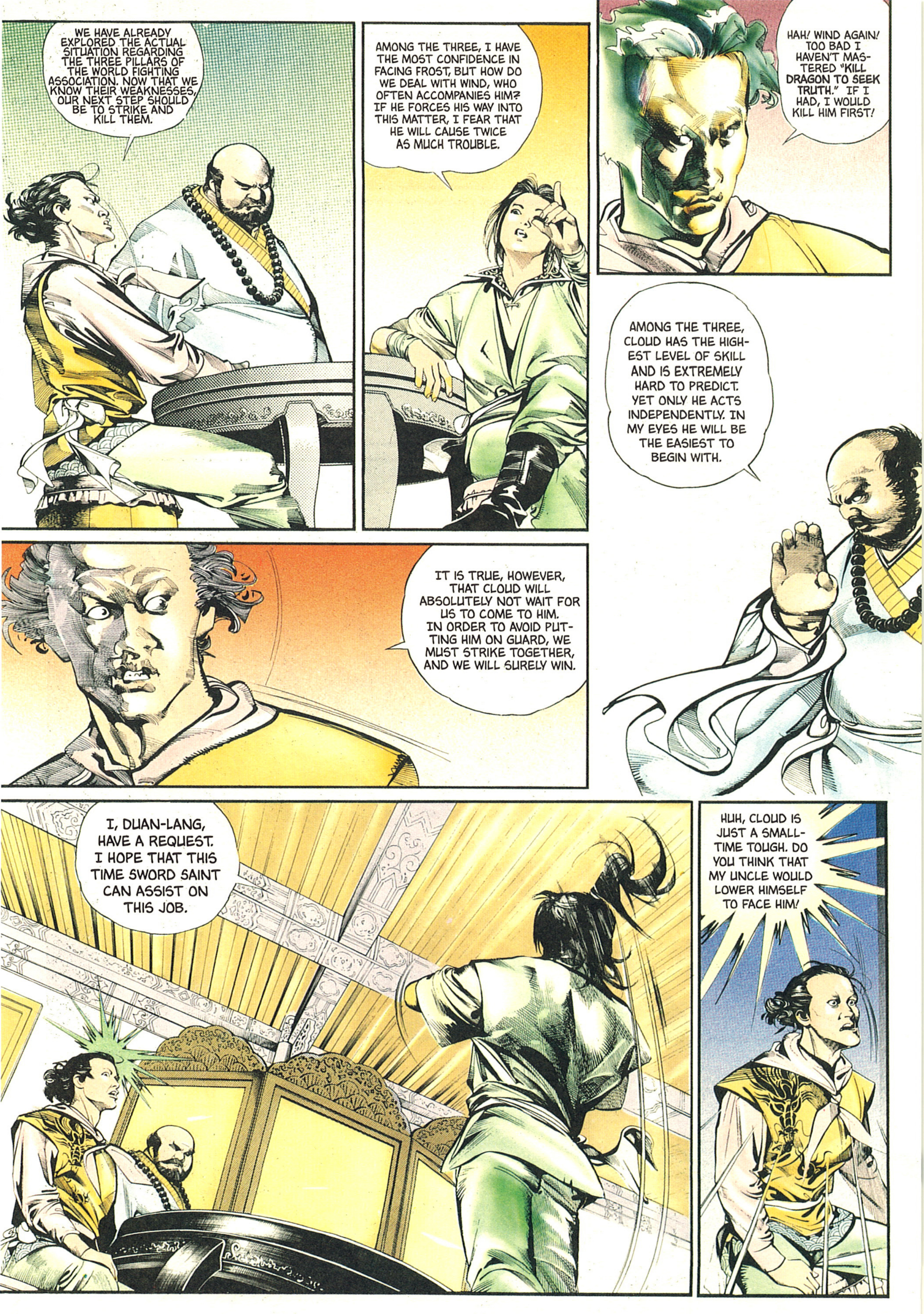

FROST... WHY HAVE SO MANY SUPERIOR WARRIORS SUDDENLY APPEARED TO OPPOSE THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION AND BRING US SADNESS AND GRIEF?
WHEN THIRD BROTHER RETURNS, WE WILL GO TOGETHER TO REPORT TO OUR MASTER AND MAKE PLANS.
YOU GO REST FIRST, I WANT TO SIT HERE ALONE IN THE QUIET.
HA! HA! HA! I'VE BEEN IN THE KUNG FU WORLD FOR SO LONG. I'M SURPRISED THAT AT SUCH A YOUNG AGE MY DISCIPLE CAN HELP ME INCREASE MY POWER. YOU HELPED ME DEFEAT THE HATED LUO-YIN CLAN TO ENLARGE MY POSITION IN THE FIGHTING WORLD. I AM CERTAINLY A GOOD TEACHER WITH A GOOD DISCIPLE.

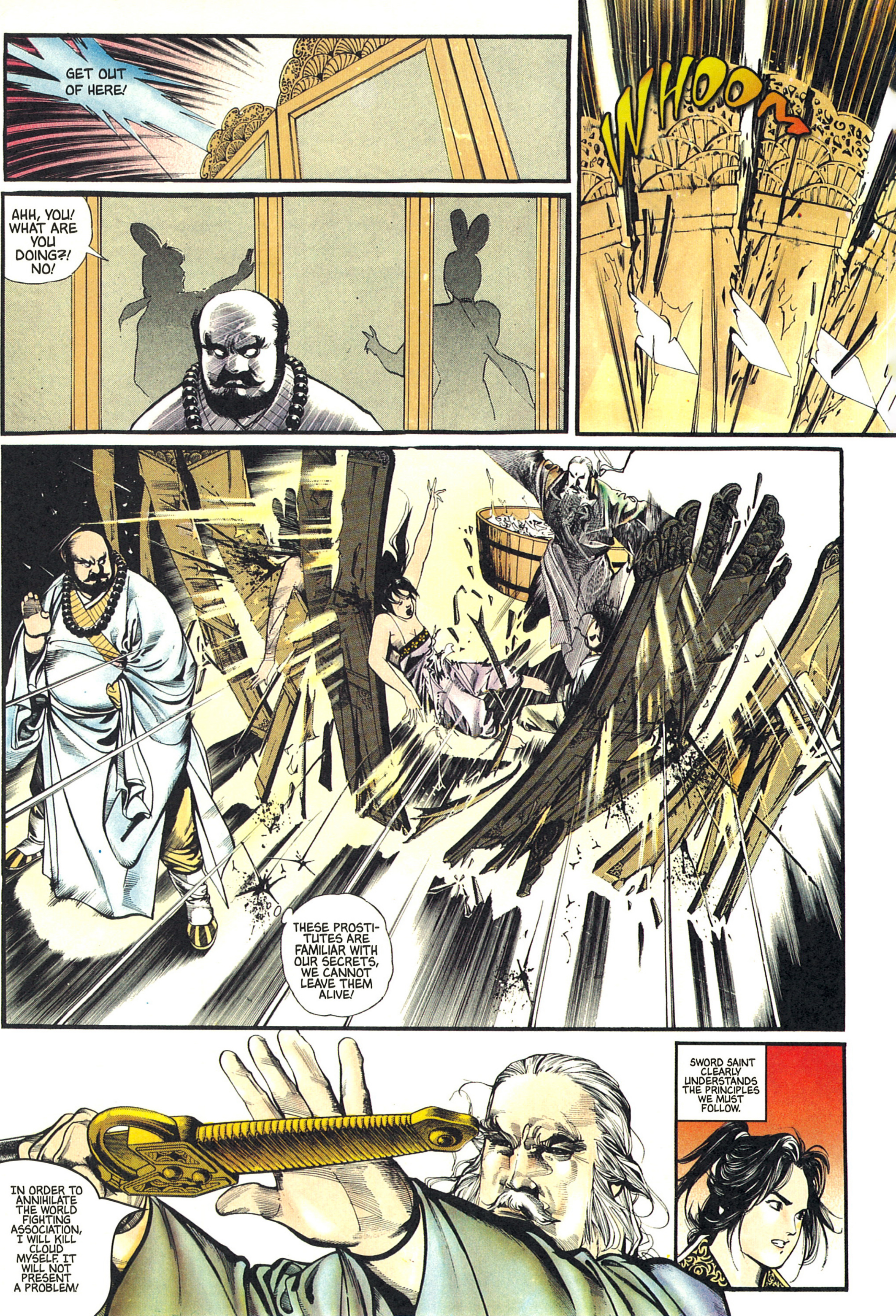

FROST, ALWAYS DO YOUR BEST! I WILL TEACH YOU THE SKY FROST FIST. THIS JADE IS MY REWARD FOR YOUR ABILITIES.
MASTER...
秦霜
YOUR DISCIPLE'S SKILL WAS LACKING. I HAVE FAILED MY MASTER.
FROST
I DO NOT DESERVE TO HAVE THIS.

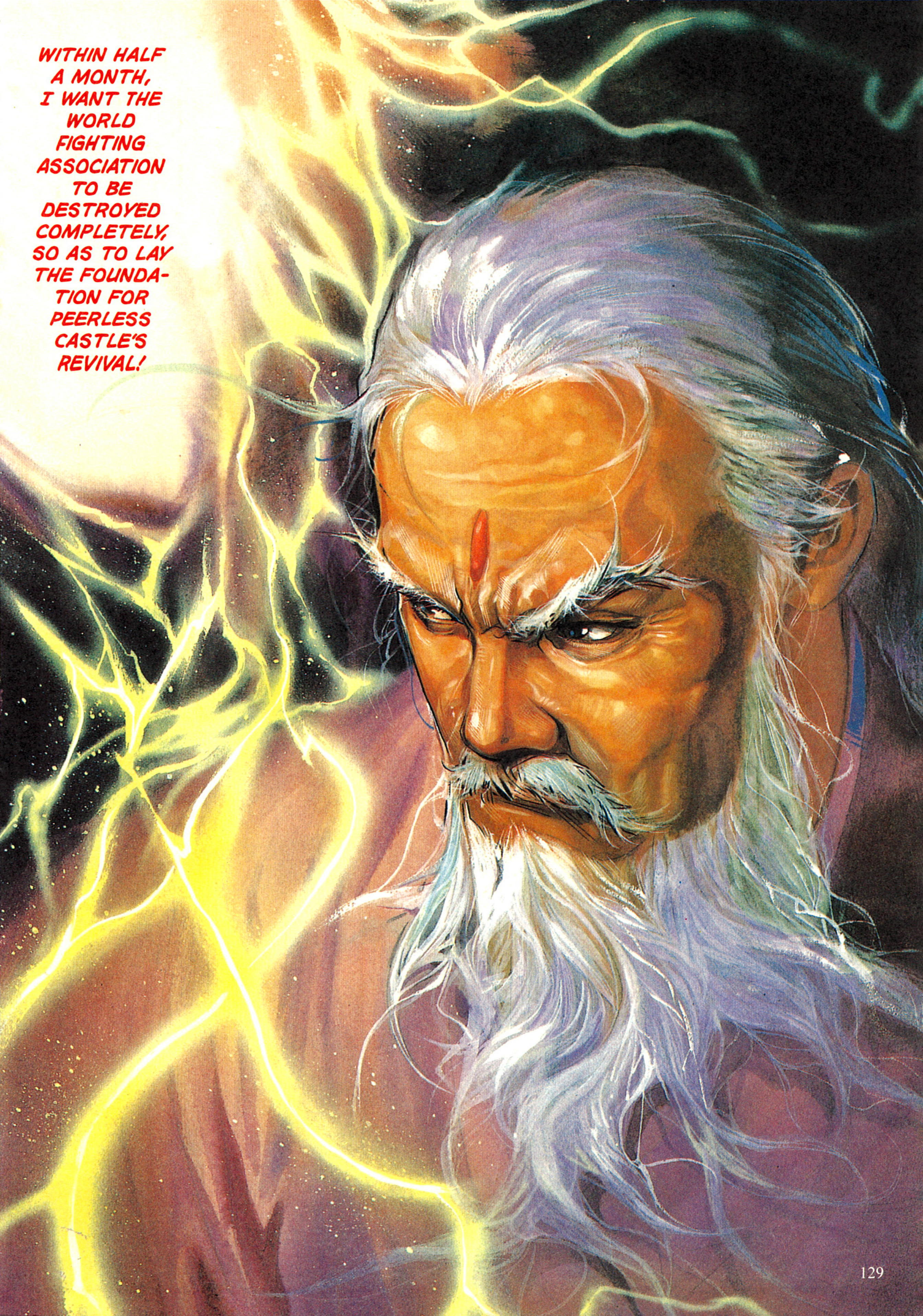

杏花樓
ALMOND HOUSE
A MONK!
HELLO, MASTER.
HMM, GOOD TO SEE YOU!
WHAT HAS FINALLY STIRRED UP SWORD SAINT TO MAKE HIM ARRANGE TO MEET US HERE?
INSIDE THE ROOM, MING IS ALREADY WAITING. WU BUDDHA RECOUNTS THE EVENTS AT LIEN STRONGHOLD.
MASTER'S BUDDHA PALMS ARE SUPERB. CAN IT BE THAT THEY ARE STILL NOT POWERFUL ENOUGH TO TAKE CARE OF HIM?
MY PALM TECHNIQUE IS WITHOUT PEER. YET FACING CLOUD IS EASIER SAID THAN DONE.

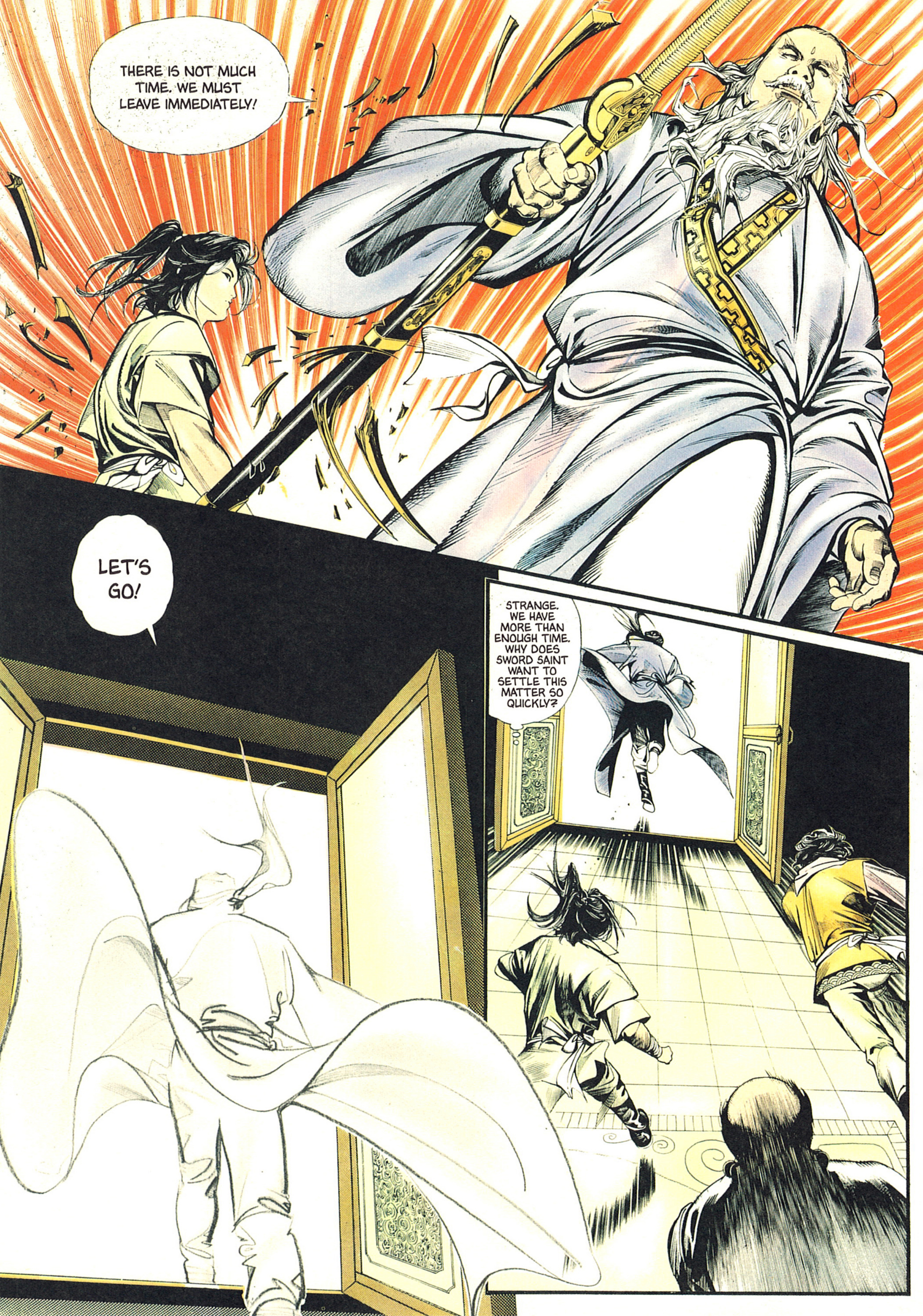
A RICHLY DECORATED SCREEN STANDS BETWEEN THEM. FROM BEHIND EMERGES A STEADY STREAM OF CHATTER.

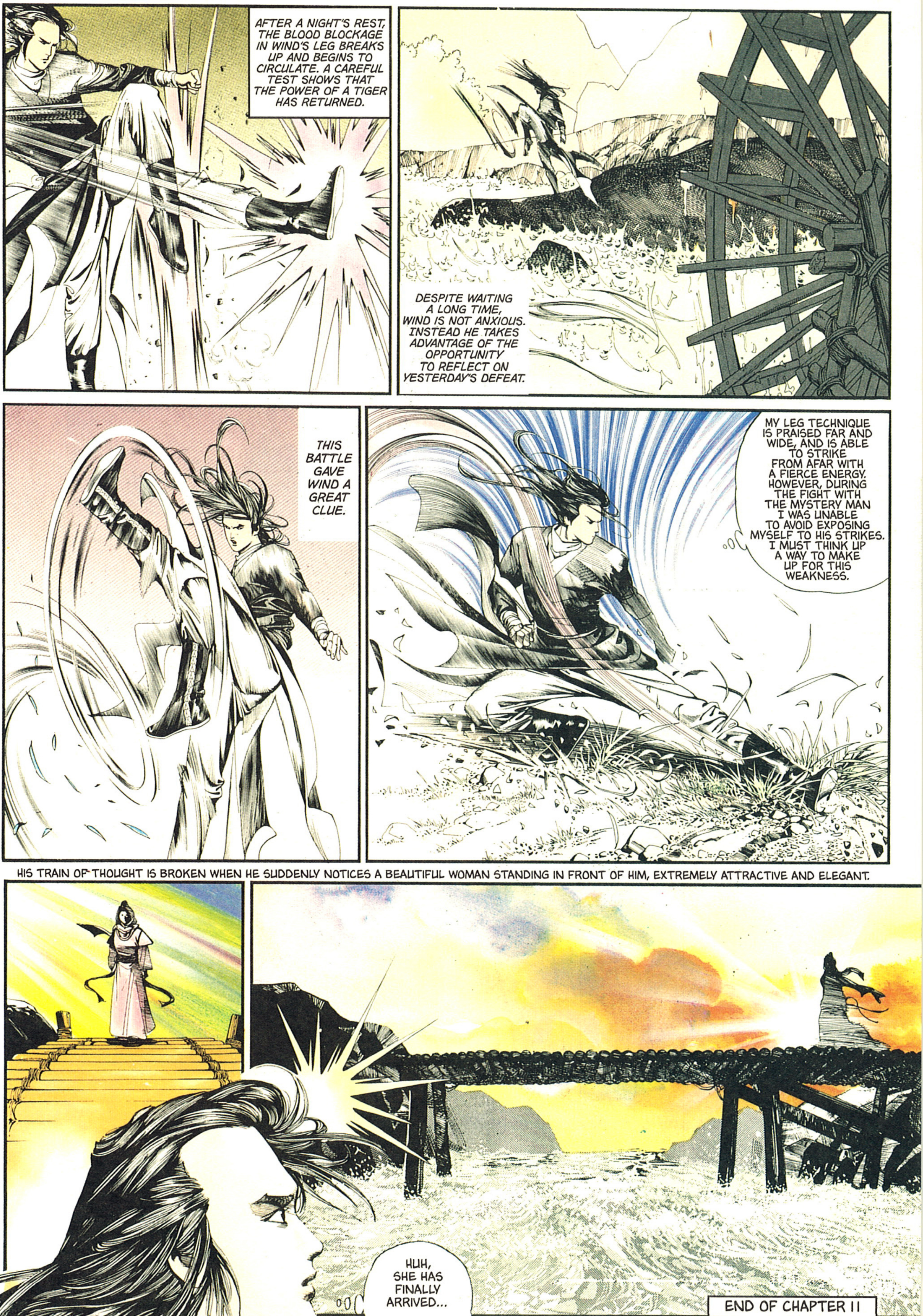

HEY, YOUNG HOST OF PEERLESS CASTLE, AS I SAID BEFORE, CLOUD'S ABILITY IS EXCELLENT, IT WON'T BE EASY TO GO UP AGAINST HIM.
HEY, WARM WATER IS HERE!
IS IT BOILING HOT?
PHH, SO RELAXING!
SWORD SAINT HAS STUDIED FOR SO MANY DECADES AND HAS ALREADY PURGED HIS MIND OF DESIRE. SO HOW CAN HE BATHE HIMSELF IN THIS BROTHEL?
SWORD SAINT HAS ABANDONED WORLDLY CARES AND IS ADMIRED BY EVERYONE. IS IT POSSIBLE THAT HE COULD BE FILLED WITH LUST?


WE HAVE ALREADY EXPLORED THE ACTUAL SITUATION REGARDING THE THREE PILLARS OF THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION. NOW THAT WE KNOW THEIR WEAKNESSES, OUR NEXT STEP SHOULD BE TO STRIKE AND KILL THEM.
AMONG THE THREE, I HAVE THE MOST CONFIDENCE IN FACING FROST, BUT HOW DO WE DEAL WITH WIND, WHO OFTEN ACCOMPANIES HIM? IF HE FORCES HIS WAY INTO THIS MATTER, I FEAR THAT HE WILL CAUSE TWICE AS MUCH TROUBLE.
HAH! WIND AGAIN! TOO BAD I HAVEN'T MASTERED "KILL DRAGON TO SEEK TRUTH." IF I HAD, I WOULD KILL HIM FIRST!
AMONG THE THREE, CLOUD HAS THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF SKILL AND IS EXTREMELY HARD TO PREDICT. YET ONLY HE ACTS INDEPENDENTLY. IN MY EYES HE WILL BE THE EASIEST TO BEGIN WITH.
IT IS TRUE, HOWEVER, THAT CLOUD WILL ABSOLUTELY NOT WAIT FOR US TO COME TO HIM. IN ORDER TO AVOID PUTTING HIM ON GUARD, WE MUST STRIKE TOGETHER, AND WE WILL SURELY WIN.
I, DUAN-LANG, HAVE A REQUEST. I HOPE THAT THIS TIME SWORD SAINT CAN ASSIST ON THIS JOB.
HUH, CLOUD IS JUST A SMALL-TIME TOUGH. DO YOU THINK THAT MY UNCLE WOULD LOWER HIMSELF TO FACE HIM!


GET OUT OF HERE!
AHH, YOU! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! NO!
WHOO
THESE PROSTITUTES ARE FAMILIAR WITH OUR SECRETS, WE CANNOT LEAVE THEM ALIVE!
IN ORDER TO ANNIHILATE THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION, I WILL KILL CLOUD MYSELF. IT WILL NOT PRESENT A PROBLEM!
SWORD SAINT CLEARLY UNDERSTANDS THE PRINCIPLES WE MUST FOLLOW.

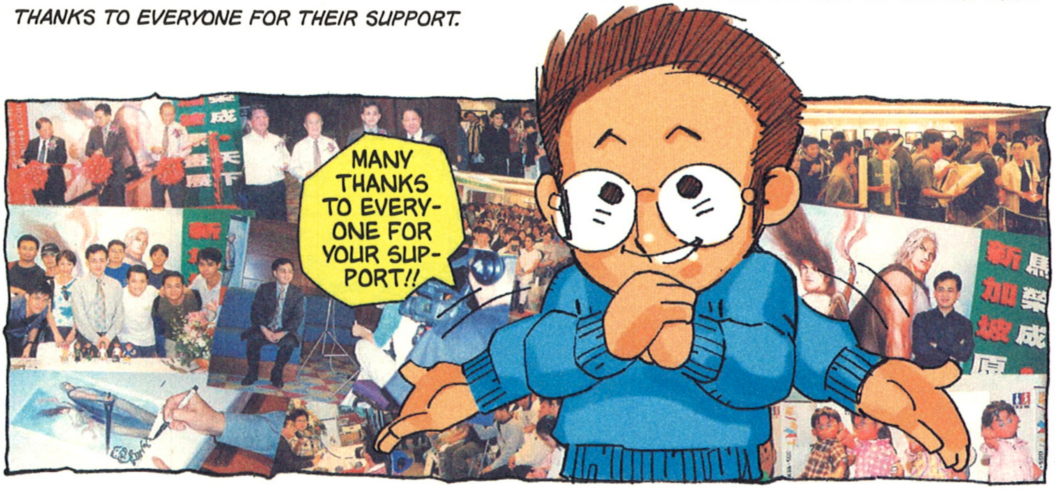

WITHIN HALF A MONTH, I WANT THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION TO BE DESTROYED COMPLETELY, SO AS TO LAY THE FOUNDATION FOR PEERLESS CASTLE'S REVIVAL!


THERE IS NOT MUCH TIME. WE MUST LEAVE IMMEDIATELY!
LET'S GO!
STRANGE. WE HAVE MORE THAN ENOUGH TIME. WHY DOES SWORD SAINT WANT TO SETTLE THIS MATTER SO QUICKLY?


AFTER A NIGHT'S REST, THE BLOOD BLOCKAGE IN WIND'S LEG BREAKS UP AND BEGINS TO CIRCULATE. A CAREFUL TEST SHOWS THAT THE POWER OF A TIGER HAS RETURNED.
DESPITE WAITING A LONG TIME, WIND IS NOT ANXIOUS. INSTEAD HE TAKES ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO REFLECT ON YESTERDAY'S DEFEAT.
THIS BATTLE GAVE WIND A GREAT CLUE.
MY LEG TECHNIQUE IS PRAISED FAR AND WIDE, AND IS ABLE TO STRIKE FROM AFAR WITH A FIERCE ENERGY. HOWEVER, DURING THE FIGHT WITH THE MYSTERY MAN I WAS UNABLE TO AVOID EXPOSING MYSELF TO HIS STRIKES. I MUST THINK UP A WAY TO MAKE UP FOR THIS WEAKNESS.
HIS TRAIN OF THOUGHT IS BROKEN WHEN HE SUDDENLY NOTICES A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN STANDING IN FRONT OF HIM, EXTREMELY ATTRACTIVE AND ELEGANT.
HUH, SHE HAS FINALLY ARRIVED...
END OF CHAPTER 11

# Author's Notes

*DURING THIS TIME IN BETWEEN PUBLICATIONS WHERE I'VE HAD MORE FREE TIME, I TRAVELLED TO SINGAPORE WHERE I JOINED THE JONESKY PAINTING CONVENTION. THERE I MET WITH LOCAL READERS AND SIGNED THEIR BOOKS AND RECEIVED A VERY WARM RECEPTION. I'D LIKE TO GIVE MY MANY THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR THEIR SUPPORT.*


MANY THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!

*MY RETURN FROM SINGAPORE AND MALAYSIA COINCIDED WITH THE ONCOMING OF THE NEW YEAR, 2002. IN THE PAST, I HAD ALWAYS SET OUT NEW GOALS FOR MYSELF AROUND THE NEW YEAR, BUT IN THE END IT SEEMS MY GOALS WERE ALWAYS TOO LARGE OR JUST UNACHIEVABLE. SO THIS YEAR I'VE CHANGED MY WAY OF ESTABLISHING GOALS FOR MYSELF AND WILL INSTEAD SET SHORT TERM GOALS FOR MYSELF EVERY THREE MONTHS. MY FIRST SET OF GOALS IS TO SLEEP EARLY, GET UP EARLY AND TO PUBLISH ON TIME.*

SLEEP EARLY, GET UP EARLY AND PUBLISH ON TIME!!

**If you have any comments or suggestions, we'd really like to hear from you.**

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# STORM RIDERS 風雲

## Merchandise

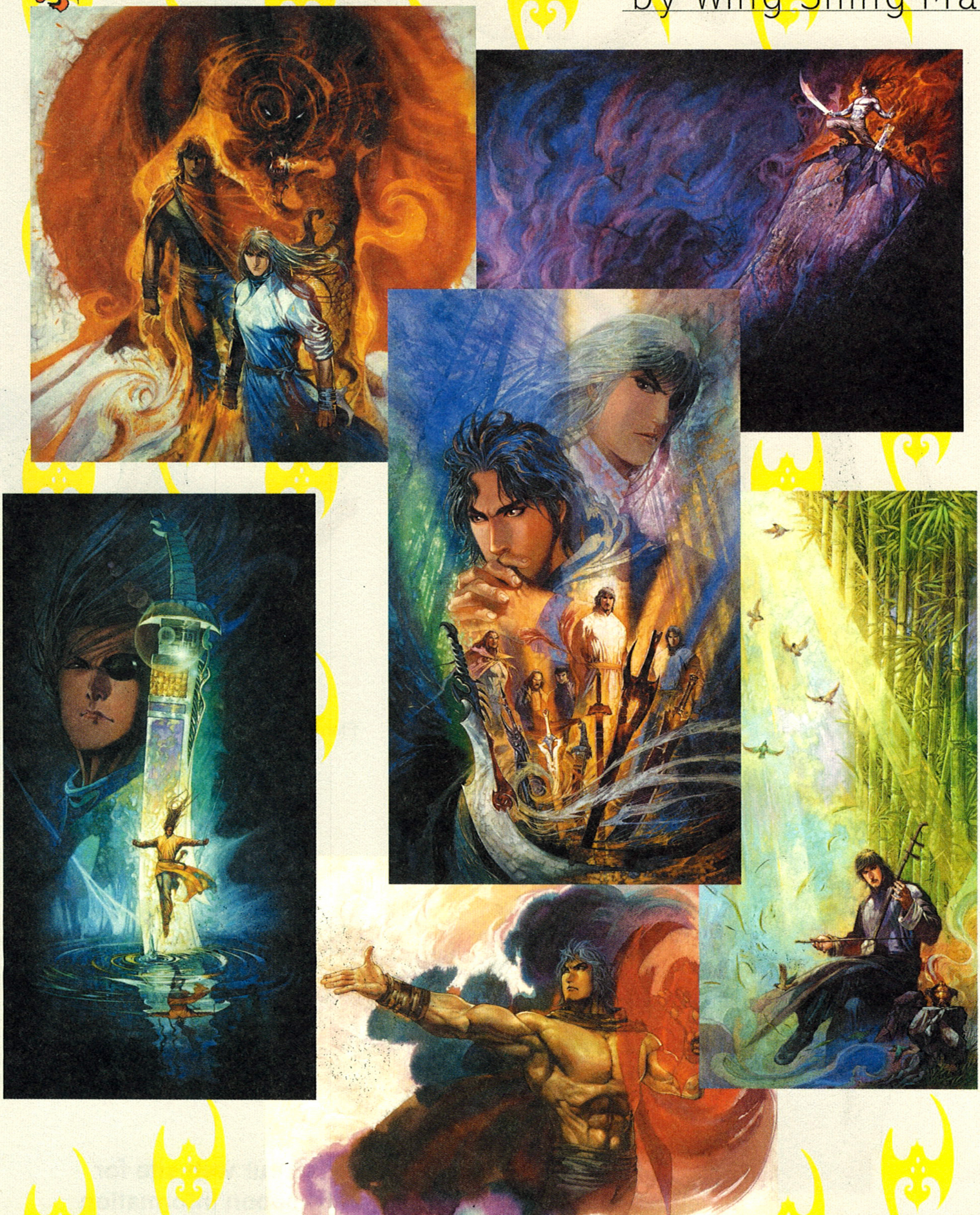
Snowy Saber: 9 inch Letter Opener (box included)

Flame Kylin Sword: 5.5 inch Letter Opener

Hero Sword: 9 inch Letter Opener (box included)

# 風雲 STORM RIDERS

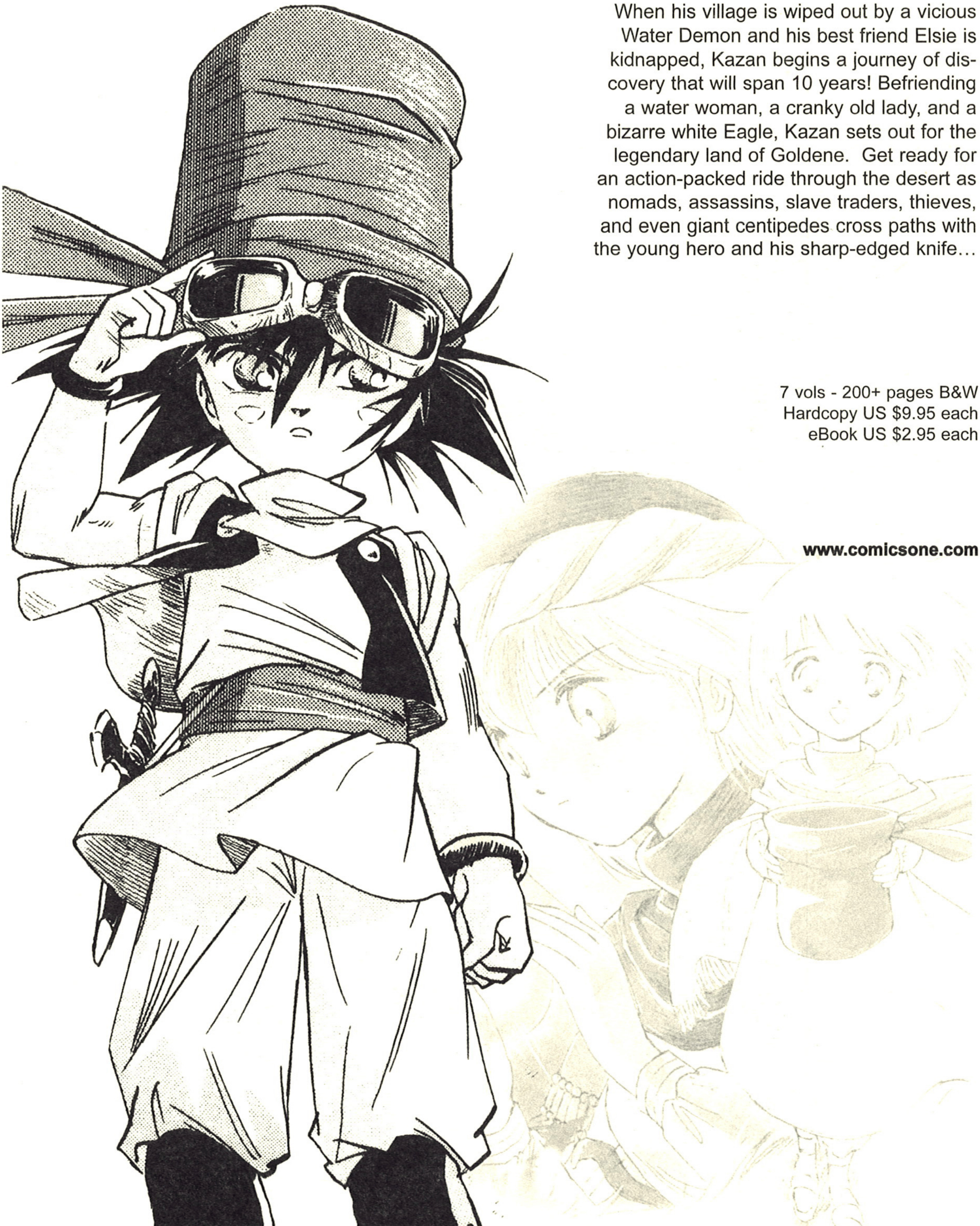
by Wing Shing Ma



# KAZAN

**By: Gaku Miyao**

Kazan is the last surviving member of a nomad tribe known as The Red Sand. When his village is wiped out by a vicious Water Demon and his best friend Elsie is kidnapped, Kazan begins a journey of discovery that will span 10 years! Befriending a water woman, a cranky old lady, and a bizarre white Eagle, Kazan sets out for the legendary land of Goldene. Get ready for an action-packed ride through the desert as nomads, assassins, slave traders, thieves, and even giant centipedes cross paths with the young hero and his sharp-edged knife...



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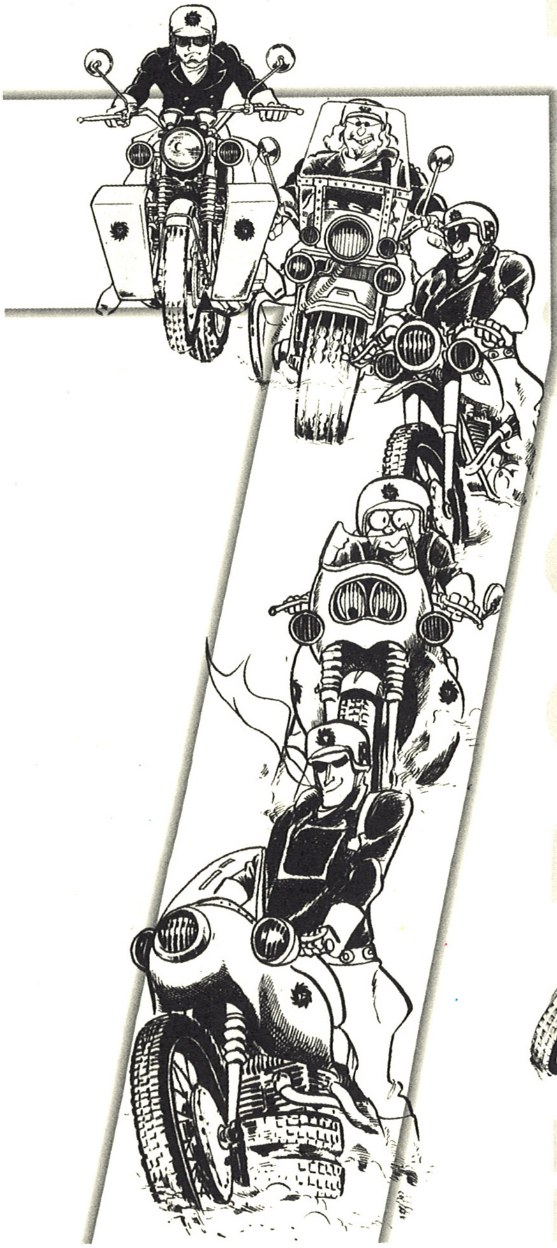

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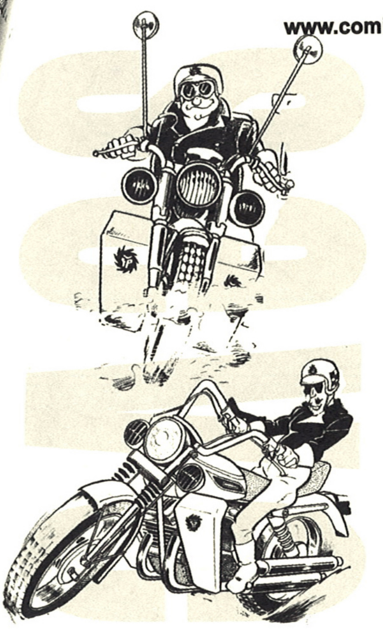

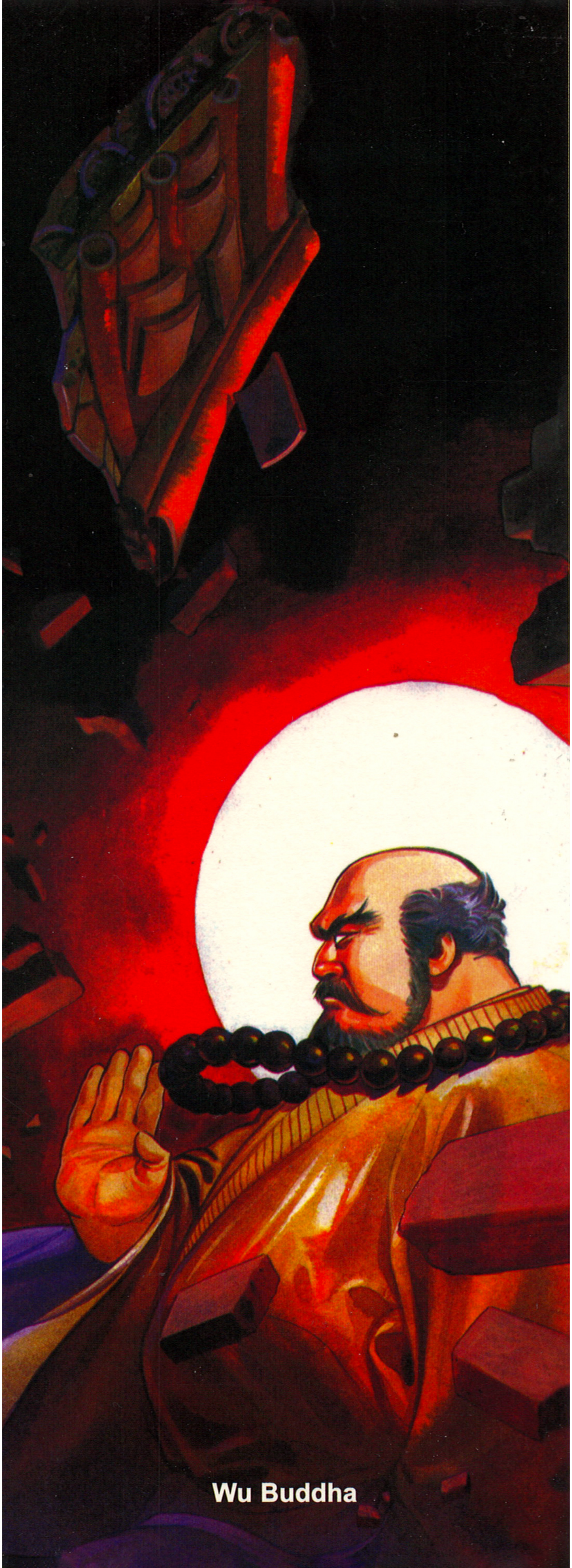

Wu Buddha

# STORM RIDERS 風雲

After the battle in Ching Forest, Frost tries to bring Mud Buddha back to Conquer. However, a mysterious hooded stranger kidnaps Mud Buddha, defeating both Wind and Frost in the process. Mud Buddha then offers a prophecy that puts the future of the World Fighting Association in jeopardy. Meanwhile, an alliance against Conquer is forming. Wind's childhood friend, Fire, has joined with Dugu Ming and Sword Saint, nephew and uncle who were wronged by the World Fighting Association, and the powerful Wu Buddha. This new alliance, born of revenge, looks powerful enough to challenge Conquer's own clan.

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